

lature, I understand the concern of the game conservation officers, and I recognize the problems that they address by trying to amend this piece of legislation. I really have no particular problem with the proposal of the Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee, but I want to point out for the benefit of those who have any doubt, I don't mean to downgrade the legislative intent that might have been expressed here by Senator Nichol and Senator Reutzel, but I can speak from experience that the home in which I live is on seventeen acres of land, and the rest of the farm is off-limits as far as I am concerned, and I cannot hunt deer on that land no matter what the good intentions of the few of us might be, and so if there is any doubt in anyone's mind as to whether or not you can hunt upon separate parcels of land, rest assured that my experience is that you cannot, and that is based upon conservation officer's interpretation and I am sure the Judge would go along with him. I took him at his word and did not try hunting on land that did not join the home in which I live. So be aware of the fact that as Senator Dworak has pointed out, there are two separate issues here... the one issue is a very narrow and a very precise issue. It's one which allows our conservation officers to more officially enforce our conservation laws as they were passed by the Legislature, and if you want to protect the deer and limit it to actually only those who have a deer permit, then I suppose you would have to vote for this amendment, and I'm going to. But do not confuse the issue, and think that by some of the language we have used here on the floor, that a farmer can hunt on land that is noncontiguous to his place of residence, because I'm sure you're going to find yourself in court, and you're going to find your weapons confiscated, and you're going to find yourself paying a fine.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Clark, the floor is yours.

SENATOR CLARK: Well, I think maybe we ought to clarify this for everyone here. All you have to do is read the amendment there. The only land you can hunt on...I don't care how much land you own, you can only hunt on your home farm. It says so right there. This is a different way of saying from two years ago, you cannot carry a rifle during those nine days. That's what it actually says. We have all kinds of farmers in my legislative district that carry rifles in their cars at all times. They go to other farms. They go out in the fields. They're not particularly hunting, but they're in that vehicle and they could be construed to be hunting without a license, and that's what the bill actually says. That's why I'm against the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cope.