

March 31, 1980

LB 993

The school lands fund now, Senator Powers, is in support of giving this lady this amount of money and they feel this is reasonable in terms of the amount that was generated since 1978 when she lost that homestead provision.

SENATOR POWERS: Senator Koch, were you aware that when this lady's husband died he left this land to the state...

SENATOR KOCH: That is correct.

SENATOR POWERS: ...and a portion of the land was reserved for her to live on.

SENATOR KOCH: That is correct.

SENATOR POWERS: And then since 19 whatever it is, 61 or whatever, she has been signing with the state an annual lease to farm the land that the state owns and it has been an annual lease year after year for something like \$1,440 and several years ago when the educational people got a new director and he looked at this, they got bids from other people on who to lease this land to and they leased the land when her lease came up, rather than renew her lease they found a lease with someone else and the result is the state has considerable income from that land. So my question is, if this is a question of this lady having this money coming, why was it conditioned upon her signing a lease with the state year after year after year and then all at once the state realizes they can get more income by leasing it to someone else, and also if we approve this money, this \$38,000 which covers two years of which she claims the lost income, as long as this lady lives we will be standing up here and giving her whatever it is, \$19,000, a half of \$38,000, whatever they get off the land but her lease was not renewed two years ago. That is my understanding of it.

SENATOR KOCH: That is correct but, Senator Powers, I stated in my preliminary discussion, the land was given in 1944 and she arranged certain changes in 1945 in terms of homestead rights and privileges and a certain amount of income, but in 1978 there was a complete abrogation of that agreement and this lady feels that since that time she is entitled to this amount of money that would have accrued to her from that time forth and I want you to know that Mrs. Lydick is, I think, 93 years of age or possibly a little more than that. This was brought