

organization, and so forth, and those people do have budgets and they would be welcome to give us input which we have said that we would welcome, and also if they wish to take themselves to Washington at their expense, we would be glad to have them. But as far as the expense of the Legislature, I don't think that we should entertain that thought. Thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I think the issues confronting agriculture are very serious and perhaps it is a good idea to send some people from the Legislature to Washington, although as I stated the other day, I doubt that anybody will pay much attention there. The attempt, at best, can indicate a concern by the Legislature for the citizens of the state who are stressfully situated right now. But I think as changes are brought to the program, it begins to make it look like something else, that once an idea conceived someplace else comes into the Legislature, it develops all kinds of tack ons, string alongs, and other things that turn it into something not recognizable as what was originally presented. So I think if there are business people and agribusiness individuals interested in going to Washington, they can go on their own. I don't think their interests are always the same as the farmers' interests anyway. So if it is going to be a legislative move, it should involve only members of the Legislature and I definitely am not in favor of the Legislature assuming the cost of business people and others. It is not to be a party. It is not to be a gala celebration. It is almost in the nature of a mourning. There are people back here in serious difficulty. I wish that at least twenty members of this Legislature during the recent summer and fall had assisted me in my efforts to deal with concrete problems of farmers right here in Nebraska. So if those who go can receive a baptism in Washington that will cause them to rededicate their efforts to the people in this state, not only will there be more sincerity and honesty in the representation afforded people by the Senators, but it will take some of that load off me. My phone won't ring as much. I have over a hundred letters, probably two hundred letters to answer from farmers. Do you know how a lot of them start their letters? Nobody else in the Legislature has guts enough to do this. Nobody else in the Legislature will listen. It is too bad that somebody