

present to the Congress, to the administration, to the USDA. I think we are trying to address the problem. It may not be in the form of a legislative bill here on the floor of the Legislature, but we are examining as many as one to ten different proposals per day. I know I get that many. I am sure Senator Schmit and some of the other agricultural leaders in this body come across those proposals every day from people and certainly we are trying to do what we can to assist agriculture in this state. I think that we have done or we are attempting to make steps as Senator Landis and Senator Chambers have pointed out, the Amendment 4 proposition that came out of the Revenue Committee. LB 30 is a step. Branch banking is another one that has been discussed and was sent out of the committee yesterday. That is another proposal to try and help shore up the lending institution industry. We have also looked at some other agricultural issues that will hopefully address the farm problem. So all in all we are doing some things. It is early in the session. We have got a long ways to go before we are through, but the thing is we have got to recognize that there are some farmers out there, Senator Chambers has indicated, that will not be saved no matter what proposals we pass on this floor or what proposals are passed in Congress. The fact is we have got to recognize that we can't save everybody. We must try and assist those who are going to be forced out of the agricultural sector in trying to position themselves in new areas, but we can take steps to save those farmers who are still active and still trying to participate in farming. The biggest problem we have is, of course, the price for the product that we produce. Farming is no different than any other business in this state. If you don't make a profit at what you are doing, you are going to go out of business. And the fact is that farming is not making a profit. We are not getting the price for the products that we produce and we have got to bring that back to Washington. Senator Chambers mentioned the interest rate problem. Clearly this is a serious problem that farmers face because they live on borrowed money, quite frankly, and we have got to address that problem while we are in Washington. The strong American dollar has injured our ability to export some of the products that we do produce and we must take steps to shore that up as well. So there are a number of problems facing agriculture that we have to look at. Hopefully, this delegation will meet and get together and try and come up with some propositions to propose or present to the people