

Amendment 4 to preserve status quo for farmers. This Legislature can adopt LB 271 to preserve status quo property tax for farmers. As you know, from recent figures in the Omaha World Herald farmers happen to enjoy a very favorable tax treatment in terms of the income tax side. It seems to me that we would make a mistake if we started the process of treating farmers like special people in terms of certain items on the sales tax side. I would hope that you would not advance this very, very costly bill from the Revenue Committee.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman, then Senator Nelson.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the body, it was a very eloquent speech, Senator Johnson. However, I don't think that farmers should be penalized just because they are not as mobile as trucks and railroads. Senator Johnson failed to tell you that the exemption for railroads and commercial truckers is \$7,365,083 and it is estimated to be 10 to \$14 million in '85 and '86. Senator Johnson also didn't tell you that the railroad's profit for Union Pacific was up 66 percent last year. Their stock went up 67 percent. So I don't think that they are hurting too bad. But I will tell you what, folks, all I would like to do is ask you to bring the bill to the floor. I will leave it alone this year. I will not make any attempt to finance the issue but I would like to have it on the floor. As Senator Rogers said, he did have the votes and then it got kind of confused with another bill. But I think Senator Landis said the right thing. He said in a newspaper report, if it is correct, Haberman's bill wasn't a priority bill and could remain on the legislative floor until 1986. That is exactly right. I would like to have the bill brought forth and remain on the floor so it would be ready for '86. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, then Senator Rogers.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, a question for Senator Carsten, if I could.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Would you respond, Senator Carsten, please.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Rogers.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rogers.