

Senator Landis and some others to mean producing the same amount of dollars this next year as they produced under the old system but completely abandoning the underlying system. There is the flaw, in my opinion, and let me tell you why. Let us assume that all the farmland and agricultural land in the state was producing in terms of dollars, just use an arbitrary figure, let's say a \$100 of tax money. When it was producing that, when it was producing that, remember that land was at the all-time peak it has ever been, the mill levies were at the all-time peaks they ever were, so the \$100, the total that all farmland produced, million, hundred million, whatever it is, call it a hundred, the total it produced was the absolute all-time maximum ever. Under this new system, and this is what you have to understand, this maximum ever produced which they are now calling the status quo becomes the new floor and you can only go up from there. That is the essence of this new system. The absolute maximum becomes the new floor. How does it do that? Because the new formula has two factors. Factor number one, an interest rate, the two critical factors, an interest rate which is the Federal Land Bank rate which is now at its all-time high, and under this formula, taxes go up as that goes down. I think it is fair to say that it is at its all-time high because if it is higher, if it goes higher, it becomes a meaningless thing. The money can't be borrowed anyway. It has to go down. So there is only one way that half of the formula can go, the new formula, that is down, therefore, driving the taxes up. The other half of the formula is also at its all-time low and really has only one direction to go, that other factor in the formula is the profit on farm products. Now you have to believe, I think, that profits on farm products, farm goods, corn, whatever, are at their all-time lows, net profit. What direction are they reasonably have to go if you are even going to have any farmers over the next two, three, four, or five years? That has to go up. So the two factors for the new formula really by any way of reasoning only have one way to go, one down which drives the taxes up, one up which drives the taxes up. That is why I say the status quo under this new formula becomes the absolute base, the floor. Therefore, farm taxes which are at their all-time high, at their all-time high ever, now have a new standard, and that all-time high becomes the absolute floor with only one direction to go. When I have talked to the farm groups, and I hate to say this but I am in total disagreement because I do not believe they even understood