

global economy than just about any other state. A greater percent of our winter wheat, for example, is exported than any other state, as just one example. As a state, we depend more on imports from just about every other place on this earth than just about any other state. The clothes you are wearing here, the equipment we have, the cars we drive, if it weren't for that competitive force from all around the globe, which we depend on for our exports, we probably couldn't even afford the things we have today. Now can you turn back the clock? Can you actually change it? Can you stop, can you build that wall and shut out the global economy? I guess I don't believe so. I believe the attempts to put us into isolation, rather than competition, will, in fact, ultimately result in Nebraska agriculture not being competitive, not being able to function in that world market. Will the family farm survive? Yes, some of them will survive, a lot of them will survive. But if you had a law on the books right now, for example, that only restaurants that "were family owned", only those kinds of restaurants were allowed in the state, do you think the restaurant industry would survive as an effective industry? Absolutely not, absolutely not. It's the mixture and the ability to go this direction or that that makes the system work. It is the mixture of competition that develops the new innovation. So I believe you have to first of all, as I say, begin the process of communication. That process requires you admit what the problem is. The problem is basically a lack of profitability, and if you really believe that Initiative 300 is going to save it,...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Half minute.

SENATOR DECAMP: ...then I think stick with Initiative 300. But if you honestly believe that Initiative 300, as it functions and as it could function if strictly enforced, will, in fact, damage the economy of this state for the future, then I think you have the courage...you have to have the courage to step forward as leaders and say we need to make the change because bleeding the patient is killing the patient, and that is exactly what we are doing now. So I would urge you to consider putting on the ballot, for another vote by the people, either the repeal or some major alteration of Initiative 300. I'm willing to listen to anything that is in the middle, or anything reasonable. But something has to be done or we'll all have on our hands the blood of a destroyed agricultural economy for the