

that time, and through that emotion I think some individuals took that as an opportunity to create and establish getting themselves in the limelight as leaders on behalf of the farm community and were able to bring Initiative 300 to fruition in front of the people. What I truly believe in terms of what my amendment says, it says basically that we are going to be restricting the corporate ownership of farmland in Nebraska. I think that is what people wanted and I think at that point we also have put it within the frame of the Constitution as we know it. I have a letter here that I am sure you all received setting on my desk from the Friends of the Constitution. The Friends of the Constitution are supporting Initiative 300. Now in my mind and looking at this, when they talk about publicly held, I put in there, in that amendment, that publicly held would be defined by the Legislature. Publicly held, we could take a strict Securities Exchange Commission type of definition which talks about the number of stockholders and the fact that the stock is traded in public, and again I use that term to try to reflect and denote the kinds of concerns that people had and what they originally voted for. That definition is going to be up to the Legislature itself. If we look at the Friends of the Constitution and we see provisions in our Constitution which should be simply a frame of government, in glancing over the 14 exemptions that they made to corporations that either lobbied for and/or maybe the originators of the constitutional language had vested interest in.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CONWAY: You will see that corporations in this state under 300 can engage in custom harvesting but they can't be engaged in custom plowing. You will see that they can engage in raising chickens but they can't raise any other animals, sheep or the like. You will see the corporations can raise alfalfa but they can't raise sweet clover. This is the kind of language that is in our Constitution, and my approach is not to abrogate what the people did, to go against what the people said. I believe the amendment, if we can get to that point and support the reconsideration, we will be at a point where we can discuss, we can put the proper language in the Constitution, and then work through this body. The people that supported 300 in the early periods talked about how the Legislature wouldn't act. We also know that in many cases they were unable to