

problems and keep a roof over their heads. That has been my concern. That is why I am interested in this subject. Now I recognize that the Attorney General's opinion says it may not be able to deal with the problem in a retrospective sense. That is not clear yet but that is somewhat what the Attorney General is telling us, and so I have to respect their judgment but clearly there may be a court case on this if this bill passes in the form that it is in today if someone tries to apply it retroactive. I know that Senator DeCamp raised the point dealing with credit. Being a young farmer, I am concerned about credit because I am trying to put myself in a situation where I am going to get credit year after year after year to stay in agriculture. If I am going to hurt agriculture by passing this bill and maybe hurt my chances as a young farmer to get credit, then I will be the first one to vote to kill the bill. But I haven't seen anybody give me any information yet that says the insurance companies and investment groups are going to come in and redline the state. Some have already said that the insurance companies already have redlined the state, so the credit is not there to begin with because of Initiative 300, and if this has Initiative 300 overtones, then they are purely coincidental because I did not intend to sponsor a bill on the basis of Initiative 300. I guess I would recognize that I am putting some people on this floor who represent rural areas of the state in a very difficult position. It is difficult to go home and talk to a group of farmers who may be distressed why you did not vote for LB 999 or some other farm relief proposals. I am not trying to put you in a difficult situation, folks. As I said, when I prefaced my remarks at the beginning, I want to begin developing a state policy. Somewhere along the line it is going to deal with this issue. We may not want to do anything this year. We may not want to do anything at any time during my term or anyone else's term in this Legislature but I think faced on the impact that agriculture has on this state, and the fact that we are distressed, and the fact that we are seeing hundreds of farm families being displaced, rural depopulation at one of its highest, greatest points in our history, I think it is appropriate that we begin looking at measures to try and stabilize that population base in the rural areas of our state, begin finding relief measures, and I would hope that this Legislature would look at some alternative proposals if 999 is not the answer. I guess that would probably cover most of my points at this particular time. I recognize, as I