

stated, was intended originally to be retroactive. The Attorney General's Opinion which is one thing that said you can't do that, but above and beyond that the Legislature specifically rejected any attempts and anything in the bill that would have made it retroactive. So if you were going to try to redo the past with that bill, you can't do it. So, therefore, you have to look at what the future of the bill does. And respectful as I am for the Center for Rural Affairs and their goals of trying to help agriculture and the farmer, what they are doing in this legislation is counterproductive to either developing "young family farmers" or any farmers and it is counterproductive to providing financing. I am not going to go into the details or any in depth analysis other than to try to use a very simple illustration and example. When you try to borrow money, particularly starting out for a young family farmer, you have very little to go on except the collateral involved that you are supposedly going to put up. So let's assume you are going to start out with half a section, 320 acres, or even a quarter section, and let's assume you go to the financing agency with your limited quantity of money for a down payment, that is the way most young farmers got into farming, by the way, if they didn't have inheritance or a wealthy father already, starting out on their own they financed most of that property. The theory of LB 999 is to try to guarantee that young farmer or person starting out that when they fail, when they fail in the future, 20 or 30 years hence, or whatever, that they are going to have something. Rather than try to guarantee against failure, try to develop a program that guarantees the guy can even get in the business in the first place, in other words, get his financing. In a word, you are inhibiting financing rather than enhancing financing and I would urge you to vote against the bill. And with that, I will withdraw the motion and not take any further time.

PRESIDENT: Any further motion?

CLERK: Nothing further, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Then proceed to read LB 999.

CLERK: Engrossed LE...Mr. President, Senator Higgins would move to return the bill. (Senator Higgins' amendment appears on page 2437 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins has filed a motion to return the bill to Select File and the Chair recognizes Senator Higgins.