

opportunity to. They haven't in the past and I don't see them doing it in the future. Let me tell you a little bit about what LB 3 does. First of all, I had a couple of phone calls over the weekend...I had more than that but two of them that I want to tell you about. One of them from an individual 72 years old who is convinced or was convinced from reading the papers that if he could just hang on until the Legislature passed this bill, he will get to keep his house. This 72 year old gentleman simply does not have the resources left to keep his house but he thinks that he is going to be able to because of this bill. The reason he wanted to keep it is because his grandfather had homesteaded that particular portion of his land with the house on in 1883. He had never lived anywhere else in his life. Well, there is a lot of, I suppose, social reasons why he should be able to stay there perhaps, but the reality is that he didn't have enough money to redeem it. The reality is that there is not enough potential profit in agriculture and the reality is that we are creating, in his mind at least, a hope that simply cannot be achieved. The other phone call was from a couple, a young couple that believed the same thing, believed that if they could hang on long enough, we would create something whereby they could keep their home. The fact is that's not the case either. They wanted to keep it because they have got a 16 year old son who was going to go into farming. I jokingly told this young lady that she can't be held liable and be arrested for child abuse if they don't force their son into farming maybe because they won't have the place. So, there might be a good side to it. But the simple fact of the matter is we are creating a lot of belief out there that we are going...the Legislature is going to help them when, in fact, it's not. LB 3 is purported to set up a mechanism where people can keep their homes. Let me tell you what it's doing. Let me tell you what it's not doing. And I don't have any amendments for it but I will probably on Select. There are hundreds of instances throughout Nebraska where dad has turned the operation of the farm over to the son and moved to town. You all know a lot of them that way, either dad or grandfather. And under the bill dad or granddad is not going to be able to try to redeem that homestead even if they would want to because they are not the owner-operator. They don't live out there on it. I'm not sure that is the intention of this Legislature but that's what the bill says. The bill says that grandma cannot retain the homestead for grandson even though she might want to if, in fact, grandson doesn't own the land, but he has been the one that's operating it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.