

farmer, the farmer that doesn't have as much down payment, it is going to be a bigger hindrance to him to get credit than 999 was originally, at the same time you will be opening up the credit to the one that is expanding his operation, this type of thing. I believe you would be better served with all of the unknowns that this bill has to simply use a sentence and repeal it and go back to the existing law. We did have credit. Yes, it is tight credit because of the difficulties of the economy, but at least you had it. You can't create pie in the sky and give something for nothing when you are taking the something from somebody else and this bill has been designed very carefully by the insurance industry to make sure that they are not going to give up anything. I think, and I would lay on you the promise here, that you will see no credit granted in which that homestead is going to be exercised, or if it is going to be exercised, the down payment and the additional difficulties are going to put it in a class of only those that are completely flush with one heck of a lot of cash so it becomes a meaningless thing anyway. I would urge you to repeal the bill. Break down the barriers and live with reality and reality is financing is tough, there is money available but you can't force, you can't force through a law somebody who has money to give somebody else that money for nothing. That is what you are trying to do in LB 3 and originally in 999 and in LB 3 you are now doing it to a narrower class and the very ones you are trying to help you are hurting, so I think you should repeal the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Harris, please, then Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR HARRIS: Mr. President, I rise to support the DeCamp amendment. You know I voted against the original bill, LB 999, not because I wasn't in favor of helping the people in the agricultural sector, I don't know of anyone that has worked any harder on behalf of agriculture and done any more in this legislature to espouse the views that would bring about change for the treatment of farmers on a national level. I believe that this bill, in its present form, if it is advanced and put into place along with the old law, that we will be giving a sense of false hope that is simply unfair and not reality for the borrowers in Nebraska, those people that are in financial trouble. So I am going to support the DeCamp amendment and I ask you to think about this when you are considering the vote on this particular proposal. Chapter 12 has just been opened up for agriculture. This allows the troubled farmer many options that he didn't have before. As a matter of fact it simply makes