

February 13, 1976

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, let me say again, in response to a couple of things, and I am sorry that Senator Dickinson is not here because I wanted to respond to him. There he is. Senator Dickinson, the problem those people that you mentioned about being in a housing development now surrounding an area they want as a park land, probably one of the problems of that that when they put together the development and put together the plan unit that there wasn't agreement at that point in time on the purchase of the land and where the park was going to go and how it would go. That could have been very easily done. That could have been very easily done and that would be the way I would recommend it being done. Let me explain the amendment, and I am not trying to be carried away about this particular section. The history of this bill is, and I think it originated because of the problems with the City of Omaha, and not with the problems with the City of Bellevue. We have been very careful to make sure that the amount of money that we generally spend for GO obligations which is about eight mills. You apply that same kind of criteria to annex land and you only take that land in under those kind of circumstances. So what happened, the City of Omaha got themselves in trouble. Now if Senator Cavanaugh and others want to solve the City of Omaha's problems, you can have, you can have section 9 out or you can have section 8 out or section 7 in. Then all I would ask you to do is delete section 11. It makes the bill apply other than to metropolitan classes. I don't want to get involved and solve your Omaha problem. You call it the way you want to, but when you remove section 11 and you make it apply to Sarpy County, then you bet I am going to have an interest in it and you bet that we have done some things very differently in Bellevue than you do in Omaha on annexation policy. We have looked at what that debt was. We have looked at what it takes to retire it in terms of the mill levy. We have tried to make sure that we bring no district in that doesn't make that criteria that the same percentage of our mill levy that goes to bond retirement can be applied to the debt of that one we bring in and we have done it, and, consequently, we don't have this kind of a problem. So I say, Senator Cavanaugh, to you, if you want to make this bill apply to the City of Omaha or to Douglas County, I will get out of it. I will leave it alone. I won't touch it. You guys do it the way you want to, but when you start involving my county, which has handled that problem a little better, I believe, then I am going to have something to say about it. Now if you want to negotiate out different language, that's fine and we can hold the bill over for four or five days and move from there but I am not going to accept that carte blanche when you just come in and throw my county into it because that has meant something in terms of the substantial development of my community and I believe that is an orderly process to develop a community in reasonable size units so that you can have some streets that seem to have some relationship to one another, so you can