

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

January 30, 2001 LB 179

Urban Affairs Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments. (AM0085, Legislative Journal page 397.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Hilgert, you're recognized to open on LB 179.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Mr. President. Members, this is a very simple bill. This comes from the City Council of Omaha, supported by the city of Omaha. This only affects cities of the metropolitan class, which is Omaha, and the bill simply adds another alternate member on the zoning board for...of appeals, zoning board of appeals for Omaha. That's all it does. Apparently, there's five members, one alternate. If this bill should pass, there would be five members plus two alternates. There needs four votes, four affirmative votes when the zoning board of appeal meets to approve variances. Should there be one or two absences, the board has had difficulty doing its business. Also, if there should be one member or two members dissenting, or one member dissenting and one gone, also that also precludes them from doing business. This would just assure that there's two alternates available so that they can come to a number of five and do the people's business in a more rapid fashion. There will be some committee amendments, which I certainly support, but that, in essence, is LB 179. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hilgert. Senator Hartnett, you're recognized to open on the committee amendments to LB 179.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body, it...the committee amendment keeps the two alternative members and what it does, it kind of clarifies if there's only one member needed. If there's four of the regular members there, and both the alternative members are present then the chairman of this appeals board would choose which one will act as the fifth member, and that's basically what it does, just simply clarifies that particular...so that there are always five members present. So would ask for the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Debate on the