

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, Senator Johnson, did you cover why Lincoln was not in the bill? If you did, I missed it.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No, I am glad to do it. I am glad you asked me the question, Senator Nichol. The Lincoln people came before the Urban Affairs Committee and said they have been wrestling with this very issue for two years before the Lincoln City Council, and that is, to get the Lincoln City Council to provide some zoning within the City of Lincoln for mobile homes. They said they felt they were very close to making an agreement and they would prefer, in a sense, being left alone so that they could make an agreement. They also said, "Look! If we haven't gotten an agreement within the next year, we are going to come back and ask this be done for the City of Lincoln."

SENATOR NICHOL: Why did they testify in favor of the bill and then want exempted out, I don't follow that quite and maybe you have a good explanation.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Well, I think that the reason Lincoln people testified in favor of the bill and asked that Lincoln be exempted out is because Lincoln people realize this is an important thing to get done but they were working on it and they wanted to get it done volitionally without having any particular state constraint. Now they say, you know, it really ought to be done elsewhere, and so that is why they can support it, they can support it being done elsewhere.

SENATOR NICHOL: Well, I can readily understand why you can support it for someone else but not for me but, Senator Landis, do you have a good explanation?

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: In answer to the question of Senator Nichol, the bill as originally drafted changes the zoning laws of all...the zoning ordinances throughout the state with the exception of Lincoln. In that case, the bill attempted to amend our comprehensive plan which, of course, is an entirely different document, and the city objected and the committee agreed that the comprehensive plan really is the matter of the city's own discretion. It is their own plan of growth and that since a unique method was being utilized to deal with Lincoln by amending its comprehensive plan, that that really wasn't the appropriate mechanism for change. So the bill as written had selected a special kind of way of dealing with Lincoln, and Lincoln asked out.