

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the amendment proposed by Senator Hoagland and Senator Warner. I would remind you that SIDs are not as evil as Senator Newell leads us to believe. The problems Omaha has today you can't totally blame on the SIDs because I think some of that is internal and it is political. Let me give you an example. About ten years ago Omaha saw fit to annex Millard and Millard was not an SID. Millard was a city that had been there for years and years and years but when they did that, in their anxiety to get land and federal tax dollars because we put out like bounty hunts, dollars on heads of people, they assumed a considerable debt which was not cost beneficial. Right now they won't touch the Regency either because the Regency has a considerable debt. I had LB 30 in here and it was a good SID. The city was going to get 18 million dollars in new evaluation but yet they wouldn't let those people build a facility which they need badly. So since we are the author of SIDs, Sanitary Improvement Districts, I think that we should give them some latitude on how they govern themselves because until they are annexed they do have a board of trustees which was elected by the residents thereof and they act as that government and the immediate government over SIDs is really the county government and that is the people who have the most direct influence on them as jurisdiction is concerned. And I can't believe we want to punish SIDs because of some debt they have had before which would be retroactive. What we are saying here is that any debts July 1, then you would meet the intent of this legislation but prior to that time the board has some flexibility in terms of how they are going to get that interest on a delinquent tax rate, but once again SIDs are our creatures and we are really the determination as far as making decisions how we are going to govern the SID and they are like ESUs and a number of other agencies I can think of, community colleges. This body has direct oversight over them and I see nothing wrong with this amendment. I think it is appropriate and I ask for the adoption of it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Labedz. Are you ready to speak? We are still on 167.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise in support of Senator Hoagland's amendment. I spoke on this originally on the LB 167, I approve of the whole bill but I do believe that this amendment should be attached to LB 167 for many reasons, but mostly giving this limited discretion to the district will allow it to decide the