

goes away. All the new signs will conform. Now they said when they did this, the only business that they said could not remain is the sign people. All other businesses are not going to be torn down or moved out. Hairdressers, garages, filling stations, they don't take their livelihood away. They let them stay but they have singled out the sign company and, Senator Johnson, I am surprised at you saying that this is special interest legislation. Why, Senator Johnson, what is the Omaha sales tax if that isn't special interest legislation, and all the banking bills and all of the insurance bills and the railroad bills, raise the lid for Nebraska City and Omaha, over half of the bills here, over half the bills here are special interest bills. So I am ashamed of you pointing to those fine people out there in the lobby. They are not even lobbyists. One of them is a member of the City of Lincoln. Or we mustn't forget the Sanitary Improvement District bill that we passed here a little while ago. I will tell you what we are doing. We are protecting private property rights. That is what we are doing with this bill. We are saying to the government, "You shall not trod on the sign people and make them go out of business". Now stop and think of what the sign business is. It is a big, big business in lots of towns and they deserve to be treated better than they are being treated. That is the purpose for this bill. They were singled out. The state does a better job of paying people when they take their property than some cities. So I say to you you can vote for this bill. It is not going to ruin any cities, harm any cities, blowup any zoning laws. It is a good bill. It protects the citizens, and that, quote the Governor of Iowa when they signed this bill they passed to protect the sign people. So I ask you to support 241 and let's get on with our business, Mr. President. Thank you.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, members of the body, we have been speaking for sometime now about the sign companies and even mentioned the fact that signs are litter. I would like all of you to know that when I ran for this Legislature this candidate never used any yard signs because I said I wouldn't litter their beautiful neighborhoods but I support LB 241 for one reason. Where do you see the signs in Omaha and in Lincoln? You see them on the corner drug store building. You see them on a small mom and pop grocery store. You see them on a barbershop. Who is really making money off of this? Small businessmen, not just the sign companies. They pay rent to these small businesses and it helps their exorbitant light bill that they get every month