

Now, let me correct a couple of things for the record. Senator Newell has his own impression of the economics of this matter as it effects SID's in Omaha. He has his own view of the efficacy and the public contributions that SID's have made. Now Senator Newell and I disagree sharply on both the economics how this would in fact be applied by the SID's the effect it would have on the SID's and secondly in terms of whether or not SID's are important and contributing political subdivisions in our urban areas. I happen to maintain they are. They are one of the best and most efficient ways of bringing about orderly suburban development and indeed the most efficient way that we have. Now let me address specifically some of the arguments that Senator Newell makes. Now he indicates that we came out here on the floor and without going through the public hearing process and so forth ask for a fundamental change in the law. Now let me correct the record. Last year LB 933 was amended on the floor by Senator Newell to turn in to transform that very simple bill into an interest increase bill for taxes and assessments. Now there was not a hearing on this SID issue last year when this decision was made on the floor. It was made on the floor the very last minute, we came in with an amendment to try and correct and rectify to the extent that we could, the floor changes that were made then. Now, the problem addressed by the amendment that Senator Warner and I presented and this Legislature adopted a week or two ago was debated on the floor on several occasions. We have considered the subject matter and the will of the body has been expressed. Now in terms of . . . getting back to this public hearing business again, there was not a public hearing on this issue this year before the Revenue Committee either. Because LB 167, as introduced, did not deal with SID's, it did not deal with special assessments. The committee placed SID's into the bill as a committee amendment which did not have a separate public hearing. The committee placed this whole special assessment issue into the bill without a public hearing on the floor. So the net effect of it is when LB 933 came up last year and the interest increase was put on on the floor and when 167 came up this year and the special assessments and SID's were put into that bill there never was a public hearing on the effect that retroactive interest application has on these independent political subdivisions up in Omaha. So for Senator Newell to stand out here and say we are making a new law on the floor of the legislature without a public hearing is simply incorrect. There was not a public hearing on the issue last year and there was not a public hearing on the issue this year. Now in the mean time the Sanitary Improvement Districts have been reacting very defensively. Last year