

but also for delinquent special assessments. There was a public hearing Senator Hoagland on that issue last year. In the course of that that whole study was negotiated and I and others worked out an agreement, worked out an agreement Senator Hoagland with the Home Builders Association who were opposed, frankly, came to the hearing and were opposed to the increase that we recommended. Now the bill was advanced to the floor with that sort of an agreement and then others, not I, offered the 16% increase in the.... Senator Hoagland, are you listening? Offered the 16% increase on the floor of the Legislature to increase the delinquent rates because in fact the interest rate situation had changed dramatically. Then the home builders came in and said, Senator Newell, you basically made an agreement with us just to go to 12%. Don't you think that you have a responsibility to live up to that agreement? I said, boy you have got a point there. I think that I will do that. So, I offered the amendment Senator Hoagland, although you did offer amendments also. I offered the amendment to leave that section alone. The 12% that we had agreed to previously. Now the situation is simply this. The SID's were not unhappy with that. They were unhappy with the retroactivity question for special assessments but not delinquent special assessments. They were not unhappy with that. They agreed to the 12% Senator Hoagland. Now this year what has happened is, they never came to the public hearing and said they were opposed to the increase. Basically what has happened is simply on the floor of the Legislature twice you attempted to bring this down to allow for the retroactivity not only as the counties presently provide, not only for special assessments but now try to increase the delinquent special assessments or reduce the delinquent special assessments by 2%. Now frankly that is not only a violation of the agreement of last year but that is a violation and a reversal of our entire policy of trying to bring the interest rates where they in fact belong. So what is happening here with this amendment is that we are going backwards instead of forwards. We are going backwards in terms of the interest rate that these SID's. . . .we are asking the city to further subsidize these SID's. Now what happens is simply this. The City of Omaha, the administration, tried to speak to the City Council this Tuesday and were unable to get enough city council members to deal with this issue. The League of Municipalities only agreed with the Home Builders and the people that you are representing Senator Hoagland only agreed not to oppose your amendment because they didn't think that they could. . . . be successful and they felt that the other parts of the bill would be what they wanted. So frankly Senator Hoagland, not only have you misrepresented