

February 2, 1982

LB 364

be temporary. So it is a matter of intent. We don't expect it to be completed this year or next year, but the intent is if and when funds are available we do want to complete it. The World Herald conducted a poll of the people that live in the area. Overwhelmingly they support it. The Omaha City Council has reaffirmed its position. They support it. And the North Omaha Commercial Club supports it. Everyone is really...this is their priority bill in North Omaha and I would urge you to vote against this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: A motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Newell moves to indefinitely postpone LB 364.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to offer this kill motion on LB 364. The issue I think is very simple. I think that we have debated this issue not only in North Omaha but in Omaha, on the floor of this Legislature. In the various committees, Public Works Committee, we have debated this issue long and hard. Senator Chambers is opposed to the road, and his opposition is very clear. He does not want to build the road even though the people have been relocated from out of the corridor. People have been moved out. He does not want to build the road even though it is our only hope for economic activity in North Omaha, even though it is the prime transportation route to the airport and to the river front industrial park which can provide jobs for an area with some of the highest unemployment in the state, an area that might be designated an enterprise zone by the federal government. And I say might because that is a process that we have to go through. We need to deal with the problems of North Omaha, not with a lot of fictions about dividing communities and those kinds of issues which really are not the biggest issues in our neighborhood and our community. Senator Chambers has argued many times that interstates only are built to serve a certain class of people, they never disrupt other neighborhoods. That is simply not true. This bill is a proposal to end the Freeway after all the people have been moved, after millions of dollars in relocation costs have been used, after the only thing...all the negative factors have happened and the only thing positive, the only thing that can happen at this point in time is the positive completion of the North Freeway, which will provide access to the river front, which provide access to the airport, which will provide access for