

opportunity, I think that some of the predictions that Senator Chambers has made could be more real than I would care to entertain. So I think that Senator DeCamp's concerns are probably aimed...are probably not, frankly, are not very justified. And I think that these proposals are the only way in which we are going to have an opportunity, and then only an opportunity to try to provide at least some semblance of hope for vast numbers of our citizens.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute. Senator Schmit, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, Senator Newell, would you yield to a question, please. Senator Newell, how does an area become blighted?

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator, I think there is a lot of economic conditions that go into that. I don't know how much time you want me to spend....

SENATOR SCHMIT: Not very much. Not very much.

SENATOR NEWELL: I didn't think so. The economic conditions are that for reasons...for a number of reasons people basically determine to go elsewhere and leave and there is not a demand for the housing that remains, there is the distress sales. The people do not have much money to improve and keep up their properties and therefore that basic condition signals to the financial community that there isn't much hope and that just further continues to depress the neighborhood.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Okay, thank you. I wonder sometimes when we propose measures such as these that we have just discussed this morning, we speak in reference to blighted areas, what has been done to remove the cause of the blight? If you come in and rebuild an area and have not done anything positive in regard to the people in that area, you are not going to help it any. If the area is not a safe place in which to live, if it is not a safe place in which to have a business, if there is no opportunity for the people to work in the area, they are not going to move into the area even though you do give some kind of a tax advantage for the construction of an edifice. I think that many times we are coming in here, again, we are trying to take over a job which the federal government has given up on, Senator Newell. I think the