

March 8, 1982

LB 817

and that there are some hundred cities and which qualify for these provisions. Senator Beutler has tried this kill motion, this is a sneaky underhanded way of doing it again. I urge this body to oppose it.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Beutler, do you wish to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, to say that this amendment guts the bill only proves one thing that Senator Newell doesn't know what all is in his own bill. There is considerably more in this bill than subsection (b). That is not to say that subsection (b) isn't a substantial portion of it, subsection (b) which I am striking, but it is not nearly the entire bill. What remains in the bill would still dramatically increase or expand the language that is currently in our Industrial Development Bond Act, so that essentially the state agency that is issuing these bonds will be able to do more than the city or the county that is operating under the industrial development statutes. It is very easy for Senator Landis to be magnanimous about the little amendments, to take five little amendments and then say, oh, I am tired of this game, what are you doing to me, when the important one comes up. But this is an important one. Senator Landis creates a little scenario about the neighborhood and the terrible deterioration in this little neighborhood, and then he comes up with a bill that is going to correct this by issuing tax exempt bonds to finance motels. Does your neighborhood need a motel, Senator Landis? Does it need a hotel? Does it need an office building? Would that make your neighbors happy? Does it need a convention center? I don't think that subsection (b) is really designed to upgrade the poor little neighborhood. It is designed to do much more than that. But keep in mind that we already have this monster called tax increment financing that can be used in blighted or substandard areas, and that is another mechanism, another subsidization that is there and available for these particular areas. So I would argue with you in addition that this is not even necessary because you already have a government finance mechanism for helping these areas. But beyond all that, I really expect that the day is going to come when the great liberal reforms or the great liberal assistance programs represented by tax increment financing and different tax mechanisms of one type or another are going to be shown in the end to have done nothing at all or very little, perhaps only to have delayed the irresistible forces of economics. I think basically that we are wasting our time and that we are wasting our money and that the best use of money is when and where private enterprise looking at the marketplace would choose to build or not to

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