

PRESIDENT: I guess that would be appropriate if you would like.

SENATOR SMITH: All right. I think that this is the time maybe to explain the purpose of the annexation measure and what the amended version of the bill will become when you adopt the committee amendments. Excuse me. The intent of the bill is to ensure that annexation is done in an orderly manner and to also ensure due process. Present statutes regarding annexation are vague enough that those things are not clear. And so basically what we come down to now in the revised bill, which is the committee amendments that will become the bill when we adopt the amendments, are simply these things. Number one, that if a city is proposing to annex a parcel of land, these are the requirements that we will place upon them, that they would put out a resolution indicating their intent that would be made known to all the people in the area, that they would put together a plan which would include some data that would be able to tell anyone who was interested enough to find out at least an estimated cost as far...or as to what they were proposing for the annexed area. And this would be for the purpose of notifying the taxpayers of the city as well as those people in the proposed area, that a map very clearly delineating those people who are in the proposed area so that if someone came down to the city office and wanted to know, am I in or am I not in the proposed area for annexation, they could look at the map and they could readily see, yes, I am or, yes, I am not. So those are some of the things that we're including in the provisions for that. We would also require that a public hearing would be held and there are certain days that are...I mean, they have a number of days that this is set when the hearing would have to be held so that they could provide for input from the public pro and con on the issue. And then, finally, that it would provide for the requirement of the public notice to be published 10 days prior to the hearing at least once, as we have now amended the bill, in the local newspaper so that everyone has the opportunity to know in advance when the hearing will be held. And then, finally, there is a small section on the end which simply clarifies or modernizes the current language. Instead of benefits...let's see, instead of "services" it talks about "benefits". Or is it the other way around? I think I did it backwards. Instead of "benefits" it becomes "services". And where there is a section here that's been removed in the very end of the bill, those benefits that they were talking about which now becomes services, it just itemizes some of the