

position that committees, generally speaking, know what they are doing, they know best. In this case, I don't believe that the committee has taken action on the bill. I don't believe the committee has taken a vote, if my information is correct, on what is to happen with this bill. Inasmuch as it is a priority designation, inasmuch as timing is critical, I have taken a look at it from that standpoint. I have also taken a look at it from the standpoint of attempting to represent my legislative district. That is a position that we all take. Selfish, perhaps, representative government at its best. I also have to take a look at it from the standpoint of a member of this body that represents the entire State of Nebraska. From a selfish viewpoint, from a person who tries to represent his legislative district, I take a look at an economic situation which has been devastating in my area. Three or four years ago, my area was looking at a 25 percent unemployment rate overnight. Not only is my community but the whole district, the whole area was adversely impacted. With the demise of a large manufacturing plant, the jobs and the opportunities went with the plant. Now with the announcement of the largest packer in the United States, I believe, setting up shop in my district, the impact on the infrastructure of that area is almost unbelievable. A sewage treatment plant which will cost in the area of \$3 million, the responsibility of my community is \$2.25 million.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SPEAKER BARRETT: This is a type of bill which will help that area and that particular problem. Some say, and rightfully so, perhaps, that it isn't enough, it is just a drop in the bucket. I can appreciate that. I can understand it, but to some communities that drop in the bucket is a very, very large drop. Those others say that Omaha and Lincoln are impacted to the greatest extent, and that is true. They are. I don't think the money will be wasted because of the needs of the communities around this state. This money is going to be spread around to the point where every community, every municipality in the state is going to be impacted in some way. It is not a cure-all. It isn't of the scope that it can be a cure-all. I don't expect it to transform cities overnight. It won't. And perhaps it is an experiment, and only an experiment. Perhaps we need to take a look at it again later, but I do believe that in this particular case we need to adopt the motion offered by Senator Landis and others. Thank you, Mr. President.