

there were one or more sites under option and two...well, what the information I heard were two in Douglas County and two in Sarpy County, and that those sites were all within three miles of a city limits. Are you aware of anything like that?

SPEAKER WITHEM: I am not aware of...your general remarks about the number of sites available and all of that, but as far as specific locations and.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Okay.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...distance from city limits, I'm not familiar with that.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you. I would have expected that to be true. So that is not an issue here. There's a larger issue in...or expressed in Senator Jones' amendment and that issue is simply this. Now I don't know whether two miles is a right distance or whether three miles is a right distance, but be reminded that this bill also provides for noncontiguous annexation which, to the best of my knowledge, is something that no city has ever had the ability to do. You can annex areas that were adjacent to the city. We have seen areas annexed by strip annexation, running a six-foot strip out along a road, and things of like nature. A lot of what is in 830 depends upon whether it is the intent of the sponsors to create a scenario under which the bid for a specific business or whether we are about the business of creating new policy for the State of Nebraska in economic development, as 830 is currently amended, it certainly applies to all of the state, to all of the state. There is a major departure, as I understand, in the usage of tax increment financing. Tax increment financing has been a good tool. I would share with you that my reluctance to support 830 would probably be much less if we were talking about declaring an area that, at some place, was contiguous to a city as blighted and substandard. A smaller issue within a larger issue is that by the time you move to ten miles outside of a city, you're outside of a green belt, you're outside of development potential on near term insofar as affecting the immediate value for the property owner who is going to lose their property through this. So suddenly it becomes cheaper to go out in the countryside, and, as Senator Wesely expressed, annex ten-mile prairie here in Lancaster County, or property of like...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.