

February 21, 1995 LB 830

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I will not take any time at all. I appreciate the offer though to refresh the body a little bit. LB 830 is one of the bills that is being considered by the Legislature for purposes of enhancing our economic development package. This one would allow communities to declare areas within ten miles of their limits as blighted and substandard, would then allow projects to come into those areas which would be able to use the tax increment financing from those projects for purposes of paying off the revenue bonds that would finance sight preparation and sight acquisition. That's very generally what the bill does. I would yield back the rest of my time.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Chambers would move to amend. Senator, this is your Micronesia amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Clerk, I don't have a copy of that with me, would you read it please.

CLERK: Senator Chambers would move to amend by adding a new section. (Read Chambers amendment, FA41, as found on page 733 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, that refreshes my memory. Members of the Legislature, I've been working on this bill since we last left...since we last were here, and it is a complicated, detailed and technical bill. I think there may be more in it, even than is realized by those who drafted the bill or those who support it. But this amendment is designed to do two things. It will give us an opportunity to allow more of our colleagues to come into the Legislature, but it also gives me an opportunity to discuss the whole philosophy behind these types of bills. Since, as I stated before, in my opinion, the state has given away its integrity and has embarked on a path which I do not deem to be sound in terms of good public policy, policy which serves the public interest rather than a very narrow, special interest, I want to focus as much attention on that as I can. This amendment would simply be a declaration of the fact that Omaha is so anxious to have this company build one of its plants in the Omaha environs that it's willing to change its name also. I had said...well, I had cast Nebraska in the role of a prostitute, selling everything that it has, giving everything that it has to these companies. This bill...this