

amendment that I'm offering is an attempt to make the marriage between Omaha and Micron legitimate, legitimate their relationship. Omaha would become "Micronesia". By having that name, everybody would be clear that Omaha was willing to give up everything that it had to give, regardless of the price or the consequences. This particular amendment is not one that I think the body will adopt, but I also think the body has an obligation to look very carefully at a bill of this magnitude which changes policy of the state in such a drastic manner. It is not talking about declaring areas blighted and substandard only if they're outside the city limits. This could occur within the city. They could select an area where there are poor white people who live in a trailer court. They could select, which is more likely, an area inhabited by black people, declare it blighted and substandard. You need to look at that definition. There is no piece of property in this state which cannot be made to fall within that definition. It says any one of these items which is listed, or any combination of them. And when you open the entire state in that manner, there are people who don't have the strength, politically speaking, to protect their interests. They will be trampled upon in the name of economic development, but it's always the development of others, never them. In the old days when they had what was called urban renewal, the poor people called it urban removal, because you got rid of the people who happened to occupy the choicest land in a city. As all of you know, when this country was starting out cities sprang up along rivers because that provided transportation and other things that were needed. That land was also flat, it became choice land. But as other waves of people came, those who settled there originally would move out because they didn't want to be contaminated. What has happened is that the choice property, the inner area of every city in this country is occupied by either black people, Latinos, poor white people or a combination of these three. Since there is what they call this gentrification, where those who fled now want to come back in, the government is being used as the instrumentality to make that possible. The government has the absolute power to take property from anybody it chooses, but it selects its victims wisely. Those who are poor, unpopular, politically weak are to be victimized. So a bill like this, which is masquerading as a piece of special interest legislation for the company Micron, and I understand that Senator Wesely's delegation is going to bring in an amendment to let them give away some of the fixtures that Senator Wesely spoke of in order to help a company within Lancaster County or Lincoln, we will see that this bill goes