

February 21, 1995 LB 830

so be it. But I just want to get you to look with me at what the definition allows. If there is a lack of a significant number of new and growing business enterprises, that area can be declared blighted and substandard for the purposes of this bill, can't it?

SPEAKER WITHEM: For purposes of this bill, it has to fit under the definition of a qualifying business activity which does not involve retail, and it has to have 500 new jobs and \$50 million of new investment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, you're missing my thrust. I'm talking about the definition of a blighted area, not the business that is to come in.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers, you're going back and forth. You say for purposes of this bill, for purposes of this bill we're talking about the large, new business activities that qualify.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But...

SPEAKER WITHEM: For the ten-mile designation, we're talking about those types of activities.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But here's what I'm getting to, Senator Withem, this bill is creating...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...an artifi...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Chambers, I think your light is next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Withem, this bill is creating an artificial definition of blighted and substandard. What I want, and maybe I'll do it without asking questions now because I'm going to run out of time and maybe I'll have another chance, because maybe I haven't made it clear. Members, what I am pointing out is that the definition of blighted and substandard is what allows other things in this bill to be triggered. Any area, for the purposes of bringing in one of these companies, can be declared blighted and substandard if it's an area, even if it has thriving businesses but there are no new and growing