

with areas other than that in my district. Once it becomes known that your property is in the corridor for a highway, the value of that property drops automatically. Then when the condemning agency comes in, they don't have to pay you as much for your property because they, by their act, have artificially reduced the value, and then they steal it. In this instance, we're not talking about a highway being built, although I'm not aware that a street could not be a part of one of these projects, the city might agree to put in streets, declare a corridor for a street, a boulevard or a road, which would indicate that property in that corridor is going to diminish in value. Maybe banks are not willing to lend money to people to renovate their property because it stands the risk of being taken. If it's going to be taken, the value diminishes, the collateral value of that property drops and the loan is not available. When the loan is not available you cannot renovate your property, it deteriorates even further, and the value continues to be artificially depressed. The property owners have a right to be made aware of anything the government is going to do to take their property. One thing the "Repelicans" are talking about doing, the Newtonians in Congress, is to pass a bill that says anytime a government action diminishes the value of a person's property by 10 percent, that constitutes an illegal taking by the government, and that property owner has to be compensated.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Even if not one inch of property is actually taken, if the value of it is reduced, maybe they're going to fly airplanes over it, maybe they're going to run a highway beside it, but they don't have to take it, anything that they do that diminishes the value. So federal law, whether it's wise or not, is being looked at in terms of the government's activities. All that Senator Coordsen is asking here is that people be notified. I'm going to support his amendment. And if Senator Withem could find a better, more feasible way than that indicated by Senator Coordsen, then I would listen to what he would say, but I'm supporting Senator Coordsen's amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Pedersen wishes to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature, the Elkhorn Middle School eighth graders and their teacher are here in the north balcony. Will you all please stand and be recognized. Thank you. Senator Coordsen.