

February 21, 1995 LB 830

the open an opportunity to discuss what LB 830 does with a traditional approach toward economic development and redevelopment of blighted areas and how the arguments within 830 tie into a Micron type of project. The language...and it is important to have the findings and declarations in the bill. It is important because what we're doing with LB 830 is we are taking a traditional, as I said, a traditional approach toward redevelopment and broadening that out. The traditional approach toward redevelopment has been that we use tax increment financing specifically within dilapidated areas inside communities. And they aren't necessarily all that dilapidated, they aren't all necessarily the inner city. Again, we'll point to the Cornhusker Hotel which was not in what we traditionally call an inner city but is a TIF project, but that's the type of projects that have traditionally been used. And we've tried this traditional redevelopment but we still find that blighted and substandard areas continue to exist. So we have to try something else. And by giving this broader authority in LB 830 to expand the use of the TIF language that is traditionally being used inside city borders, to be able to use it for the large projects that do exist, that do come to our state in a form of an RFP once every several years, by attracting some of those to our state, we'll be able to provide job opportunities, it will improve the economy for everybody within our cities, within our state. That is the rationale behind the bill. There needs to be a tie and a statement of that. Having said that, maybe the way to say that would be to get a transcript of what I just got through saying, correct my grammar and my uhs and ahs and coughs and that kind of thing and put that in the bill. What I am saying to Senator Hall and to others that may have problems with this is if there is a better way of saying this, but keeping this connection flowing between a traditional approach toward economic development and redevelopment through tax increment financing with some findings and declarations that show that it's necessary to expand that to a new approach without the language that Senator Hall finds as offensive, I'm certainly willing to look at that. I'm not simply willing to strike that language out of the bill and will not be voting for this Hall amendment. I may be persuaded to vote for some substitute language somewhere along the line of the consideration of LB 830.

PRESIDENT ROPAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Chambers, your light is next followed by Senators Wesely, Hall and Wickersham.