

February 24, 1995 LB 830

go out and take unpopular actions, they are still accountable to the electorate. And even though these are areas outside of the communities in most of our communities in the state the...the...when a city council does something blatantly unpopular, blatantly unfair, they pay the price. In order...the same reason that a city needs the power of eminent domain or a state needs the power of eminent domain to put through a traditional sort of road project, a sewer project for the public good, in this case we are saying that the development of...that's what 830 declares is that the development of property for economic development purposes, to ease blighted and substandard conditions, is in fact the public purpose. The power of eminent domain is needed in this case also. So again before we talked about practically speaking how the Wickersham amendment might unduly delay a project,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...at this point I think we're...I'm trying to indicate that the power of eminent domain has not been grossly overused or mismanaged, at least I have not heard examples of such in the areas of community development, and it is in fact something that is needed if the communities are to exercise this authority to help promote their local economies.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: Madam President, members of the body, could I ask Senator Matzke a question, please?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Matzke.

SENATOR MATZKE: Yes.

SENATOR JONES: Yes, you was talking about the road going through your property and that would be a private to a public for a public entity on that case, wouldn't it?

SENATOR MATZKE: Yeah, it was condemned by the...

SENATOR JONES: Yeah, right.

SENATOR MATZKE: ...highway department for public use, yes.

SENATOR JONES: Right, yes. I lived east of Maxwell on an 80