

by the courts as that's the final word, although sometimes they can overturn that. So every time we do venture into this area and make a determination I think it's important to note that, that's what I'm doing here, and to regard that with some, I think, discretion. I think we have a great deal of discretion in this regard. What we decide is public purpose seems to be what is upheld. I continue to have concern about this serving a public purpose, but I'm not going to raise a big fight over the bill as I told Senator Hartnett, but I wanted to note that opinion for you to look at if you have a chance and I'd give the rest of my time to Senator Hartnett.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Senator Wesely asking for the opinion of the Attorney General. I guess my purpose of introducing the bill is to, we have spent a lot of time, we have spent hours debating the Micron bill and I really see this as more than...as an economic development issue and I see that because there will probably not be any state funds go to these private airports simply because I think there is a need for the public airports ahead of time. And what I see the need or as the bill was brought to me is a need for it to tap into federal funds. And the person that I'm introducing the bill for is...simply will spend money, his own money to meet the safety standards of his airport, he'll have to extend his runway a long time but he will now be eligible for low government loans. And so I think that we're seeing public, a person, rather than...I mean a private person spending his own money for the public good. So I appreciate Senator Wesely's amendment, but I hope you support the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, that was the conclusion of Senator Wesely's time. Senator Hartnett, your light is on. Do you wish to speak further? Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, just briefly because I don't want to take the time off the bill. But one of the reasons I support the bill, certainly being involved in aviation as I am, is that we are not necessarily just private owned, but they are public use. These are airports that every pilot in the State of Nebraska uses and particularly when you're flying into Omaha there are times when Omaha certainly is socked in being on the river on an ILS minimum that radar-VFR can't get into and so they need to go to