

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Okay. That provision was added at the suggestion of Senator Maurstad and maybe he will wish to say something about that. I think his community in particular has had some experience with that particular need. I believe, in his instance, it was a railroad siding and the community furnished the railroad siding or spur and made that transportation available to the company and that was the incentive that they needed in that particular project.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Would the incentive still be there with the addition what you have now? In the E & R amendments, not in this amendment but in the E & R amendments with the 25 percent of...I mean, none of that would be included then in what you're talking about in Senator Maurstad's case. Would that be correct? Senator Maurstad, I'm dying to get you involved in this conversation. Would you yield to a question?

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Maurstad, Senator Wickersham was talking about a concern that you had with one of the communities in your district and why that section on page 6, on the first...on the Wickersham amendment, page 1, starting with line 6 at the end, the restrictions shall not prohibit a community from receiving a grant for a community improvement project which may include utility or transportation infrastructure which is of consistence with the purposes of this act. Would you explain the rationale of why that was needed?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Senator Bernard-Stevens, what I did during one of the discussions on the amendment was raised an example that might have occurred if the City of Beatrice not adopted an 840 economic development plan and I used that as a basis. We funded it, the railroad spur that Senator Wickersham mentioned, through the 840 plan. The reason why we had to do that is because it did not qualify for any of the dollars that might be available currently with the Department of Economic Development or the CDBG program. So the language that was being proposed during that discussion would not have clarified that the funds could be used as set forth in lines 6 through 10 and I felt that that was important that that be available to other communities in the future.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Now, out of curiosity, if that section