

were not included, again, lines 6 through 10, do you think that the way the bill is drafted now, which sets aside 25 percent of the aggregate to those that employ 100 or more, or again 75 percent of the aggregate for those 100 or less, that Beatrice would have qualified or could qualify for loans under the provisions of the act without 6 through 10?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Well, I think we're talking about a grant in this particular situation and not a loan to the community, first of all. But, secondly, I think to really answer your question, you would need to have more specific details.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Well, let me...let me rephrase...let me ask one other question and see if I can narrow it down just a little bit. If lines 6 through 10 were not in the bill, would it be possible, whether or not they would be approved or not, but would it be possible for Beatrice to apply for a grant under this particular proposal if they were still trying to do that spur line that we were talking about as if it didn't happen in the past and they were going to do it this next year. Would they be able to apply?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: I believe that it's important to, with the other changes that have been made and other changes that might be proposed, that this language be included so that it shows clear intent that grants could be used by a community for these types of...these types of purposes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay, and that will be one of the sections we'll have to talk about a little bit later. Thank you, Senator Maurstad. And, Senator Wickersham, now I'm going to lines 15 through 18, specifically line 17 where it says grants demonstrating a net benefit within 15 years. Where did 15 years...I mean, is it one of those things, well, why not, we don't know, this is a good reason, ten years better than 15, what...

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator, I thought it had a certain residence with (interruption).

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That's what I thought. Fifteen is better than...not as much as 20 but certainly more than ten, and if they can't show any benefit by ten, they surely should be able to figure out some way in 15, I would think.