

February 29, 1996 LB 1322

much Senator Jensen's comments. That's kind of what I wanted to hear and I was going to ask Senator Wesely if he had any comments along Senator Jensen's line. And then Senator Jensen got into some of the details and I don't know if, Senator Wesely, if you had any more details of what you would envision this amendment that we're talking about specifically, why it was brought to our attention, I would appreciate it very briefly because I do want some...say some more things.

SENATOR WESELY: I kind of said it already, but Senator Jensen said it better than I did. We have got a situation where we have let something evolve over a period of time like Topsy, it's grown. Now the question is, how are people working with each other? Is there a better way to do it? We've had duplicate inspections. I told you the story in Lincoln. That's got to happen elsewhere across the state of Nebraska where some individual is trying to build a home or fix a home and somebody tells him you've got to do this, they do this; the next inspector says you got to do that, it's the opposite of what that first one said. This is going on today. We've got to stop that.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, thank you. And I wanted to say. I am going to put on record I will be less than enthused at all, in fact, I absolutely do not want a consultant hired by the Department of Health to do that. As I envision this, I think...I am opposing Senator Maurstad's amendment. And I think that this should be able to done...to be done for the \$5,000. I don't see this as being that far-reaching that we maybe have to get into that much advice. But at least there ought to be a method to see all the differences in codes across the state, some of which Senator Jensen enumerated. Those are the issues that I'm concerned about too, and I also will say that I will be less than enthused about putting a lot of state General Fund money into this particular fund in the future if this bill continues forward. On the other hand, that is not to deny that I think we have a fairly serious housing problem in this state. I've made this statement before that as I see the infrastructure increasing in the eastern part of the state, we've had a decline in the infrastructure in the western part of the state. As our population is moving, we are abandoning older unused infrastructure, in this case housing stock, sewers, water, all those kind of things, but that expense is continuing in newer areas. That perhaps is beside the point except that it