

February 29, 1996 LB 1322

fact bring that \$100,000 house down to \$70,000, or whatever it might be. Don't you think that's fair to suggest so that we know exactly what we're talking about here? With all due respect, an electric plug up to the second floor where there's a railing that has spokes in it, how many affordable housing...houses do you folks know that has two stories? Most people I know are lucky to have a basement if they got a house they can afford to live in. It's usually a concrete slab "jobby," and that's all they can afford. So we have to be careful we understand what we mean then and what the difference is as it applies to what should we do to cut back on whatever those building regulations might require to make a house affordable for somebody. Now in Riverdale, I'm not quite sure if they got any building codes at all, Jim, but I can see something coming down the p.k.e. What they want to do is develop...and this doesn't exist unless this involves regulations, it's going to demand certain things. I would like to see somebody put something in writing rather than just talk about in principle what we got to do to help these poor people afford to buy a house, about what they would suggest we do not do to make that difference. I would like to ask all of you, as you are lobbied by those people, the homebuilders, whoever else it might be,...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR LYNCH: ...to support this bill, to ask them that question. Simply ask them that question, give us a list of those things that we won't have to provide in homes that "invis" whatever it might be, health and safety, electric plugs, outlet in the basement for a toilet if you think that's necessary, et cetera, so that we can make these houses affordable. That's why I have a concern. That's why I support the Maurstad amendment. That's why I have serious concerns about what could happen. Here, again, we're buying a pig in a poke. We're talking about doing something to help people to afford homes, but I haven't heard anything yet that specifically addresses the issue of those costs, not as involves interest rate from banks, not as involves how much you think, for example, if you take out that electric plug going up to second floor, it's going to reduce the cost of a house and by how much. Or do you think if they don't have to do it, they'll charge you just as much for the house but save money themselves.