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LB 105

ask the question does having a neighbor who makes more money influence the behavior and actions of a given resident? I don't think so. I think it goes way beyond the fact of whether or not someone has a neighbor who makes more money than they do, and so that's why I say let's start at this hundred percent of median income, that I think is very generous in terms of arriving at a compromise, and if we need to address that after this let's go for that, but let's not...let's not give away too much up front when we might regret it later. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Smith. On the Smith amendment to the committee amendments to LB 105, Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, there were four issues that were of concern to realtors and...and...that they were concerned that, especially in the section of this bill that had to do with mixed income, that in some way this was going to intrude on the private market. And I gave you some numbers before and I will go over those numbers again, but in Lincoln 44,000 units, 1,200 of which are public housing units. They have a waiting list of 500. They have 65 units that are available to persons of noneligible income. So we're not talking about anything that's going to have a huge impact in the greater private market and, yet, I believe that in the...in the definition of what is public housing and changing that from being just about warehousing, in a certain particular area, individuals just because they're low income but really having an environment that is much more like...like the world that we live in, the world that we work in where we have people of all kinds of economic backgrounds that we deal with on a daily basis; that we want the same thing for people who are at a position in their lives at this point in time when they are...need assistance with housing. And I think that there is an extremely important value in...in accepting people based...in learning about living with somebody based on a personal interaction rather than just assuming that because they have a certain balance sheet that they're going to be a certain type of person. And so I think that there are some real value...there's real value to us in having these mixed income units and I'm afraid that the Smith amendment, by making it...by making the pool available for the...for those units that are available to noneligible people so small and making it so difficult in the public-private