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LB 924

land?

SENATOR FISCHER: I believe each...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Fischer.

SENATOR FISCHER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. I believe each state has a little different twist on the bill with the...dealing with eminent domain. I specifically suggested the amendments that the committee, Judiciary Committee, then adopted, singling out agricultural land because that affects my district. I believe if the discussion wanted to go further on restricting eminent domain, it would be presumptuous of me to carry that discussion further, because I'm dealing with concerns that I heard over the...well, since June from my constituents.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: And, Senator Fischer, I appreciate the remarks, and I think you can also appreciate that the value of private property rights are not solely those of the agricultural based rights here within our state, and that within our, for example, from where I come, the metropolitan area of the city of Omaha, I have constituents, and you may have had some contact with one of them, that have been negatively implicated quite severely by what I would characterize as eminent domain abuse, blight, categorizing a section of the city as blighted. And so I guess I'd be interested to know if other states have used this course of action in limiting it strictly to agricultural based land. And, Senator Fischer, really there's nothing...there's really nothing that can limit a city, a city council of a city, from rezoning land from agricultural, away from agricultural designation, and taking it anyway if it's within the geographic proximity of the city. Am I correct on that assumption?

SENATOR FISCHER: I would assume so, yes.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: And let me be clear, I support your bill. I support LB 924. I am a bit puzzled, though, that we can't, as a Legislature, protect the private property rights of all of our citizens. And, you know, you have a home. It's where you raise your family. It's where you plant your garden. It's where a lot of things take place that have a great deal of emotional