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FLOOR DEBATE

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know, you talk about a poster child of someone who has been wronged by this procedure, and the procedure meaning the designation of blighted, the eminent domain procedures, being dragged into court, and quite frankly, I didn't know that there was not a provision available to individuals that prevail in these instances, where they can't recapture attorney fees. And I'll be very interested in looking at that, potentially, in the future. I support Senator Redfield's amendment. We need to do what we can to protect private property rights in our state. You know, our homes are very valuable. They maintain a value above and beyond a spreadsheet, and we need the tools to protect our homes, our private property, and we need to do anything we can to enhance private property rights. And the fact is, is that...and it impacted a constituent of mine, the fact that the city had abused this power, and to elevate the degree that they need to take it to, in terms of providing documentation of the need to take the property, I will support. I support Senator Redfield's amendment. Thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. Senator Bourne. Senator Bourne, on the Redfield amendment.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I am trying to get a handle on what Senator Redfield's amendment does. I will tell you that Senator Redfield had a bill in Judiciary Committee--I don't know--on eminent domain. I don't know if this one is it. I will tell you that, regarding Senator Fischer's bill, her priority bill, LB 924, we had extensive discussions on the bill and the impact that it would have, and what we tried to do is strike a balance between allowing for economic development and protecting private property rights. I can tell you that we worked extensively with our utilities, to make sure that they still had the ability to erect telephone poles and light poles. We worked with railroad individuals to make sure that they, as part of our infrastructure, still are able to do the things that they need to do to exist. We worked with cities to discuss what impact this might have on economic development, roads, things of that nature. And I think it is fair to say that Senator Fischer's bill is somewhat a house--I don't want to say a house of cards, but the amendment that Senator Fischer...excuse me, the committee amendment on LB 924