

April 4, 1975

SENATOR MURPHY: A question of Senator Simpson, if I may. Senator Simpson, you made the statement that Omaha does not have very high standards and I wondered if you were referring to the Senators or the trailer courts or just what.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Does that deserve an answer?

PRESIDENT: Well, Senator Murphy is sitting down so I will give you the advantage of my view here. Looking at Senator Murphy, the view isn't very good. Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, everybody is asking Senator Simpson a question or two, I would like to ask one. Senator Simpson, what is the... what is back of this bill. Who really wants it?

SENATOR SIMPSON: Well, it is a good question. I think that, primarily, it was brought to me by the industry which includes, which includes manufacturers of the homes. It includes the people who run the parks and just the entire area of the industry of mobile homes.

SENATOR RUMERY: Thank you. I think we have had a number of reasons why we should not support this bill and I would go along with that this morning.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President and members of the body, I have a question of Senator Bereuter, if he will yield.

PRESIDENT: Will you respond, Senator Bereuter.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Yes.

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Bereuter, I know that you have a great interest in proper planning and utilization of, whether it is land or any other types of facilities. Now I see that you are opposed to what I believe is a bill of considerable merit particularly when we are talking about housing in many cases is substandard. We are also talking about safety for people and I...my question to you is, why do you oppose this bill when you believe so strongly on other types of things that I am familiar with.

SENATOR BEREUTER: I oppose this bill because I agree with you on one thing, and that is, in the area of land use where safety and public health does not dictate otherwise, we should have local control and I think the city councils and county boards can handle this and in some parts of the state, they have chosen to handle it rather well.

SENATOR KOCH: Well, one additional question, Senator Bereuter. You know, as well as I do, that there are very few cities or villages, whatever you want to call them, that have ordinances which attempt to get at the problems of the types of housing developments. Do you agree with that?

SENATOR BEREUTER: No, I don't. I think that most cities are doing it but they are not doing it through separate ordinance, they are doing it through provisions in their zoning ordinance or their subdivision regulations. If they are over 2,000, for instance, they are handling it for the most part.