

amendment and the two-mile limit. Quite frankly, two miles just isn't far enough. Example, a point in case, is when Beatrice, largest city in my district, was looking to develop a new industrial site because, fortunately, we had a good problem. Our existing site was nearing capacity. We had to bring in a site team to try to identify an area that was large enough, in a good location, that would promote continued expansion in our area, and, quite frankly, that's very difficult to do within two miles. It's very difficult to do, I'm sure, not only in Beatrice but in communities all across our state. So I think it's very important for the provisions of LB 830 that the ten-mile limit be continued. With that, I would like to extend the balance of my time to Senator Withem, if he would choose to use it.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Withem, you have about four and a half minutes...or three and a half minutes, excuse me.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Madam President, and members of the body, thank you, Senator Maurstad, for the time. I would just rise in opposition to the Jones amendment. We're in a position here, just as a general comment to the body and to state my personal preference, obviously, any member is free to do what any member feels. As of about eight-fifteen or nine-fifteen this morning, I checked the desk, there were no amendments up there. Now there are three amendments up there and I assume that there will be many more. Obviously, it's within the right of any member to file amendments and attempt to change bills and to make arguments. I certainly have no objection to that. I would ask though that if members, and to particularly Senator Jones I would address this comment, if Senator Jones is serious about impacting on the ten-mile limitation, I am willing to listen to those arguments, but if I don't know what those arguments are, I have no choice but to stand in opposition to the amendments as they get filed. I notice there is another one up there filed by Senator Coordsen that changes, you know, some other minor portion within the bill, or I shouldn't say minor portion but a portion of the bill and, at this point, I have no idea what that does. If people seriously want to impact on this legislation and have concerns about it, I would be happy to address those concerns. We can't really do that if they just...the amendments just pop up willy-nilly without...without any forewarning. I've always been one that's willing to listen to specific suggestions for improvement. As far as why ten miles...why two miles is not a good idea, that's more restrictive than the current TIF