

March 9, 1995

LB 494, 837

eminent domain. It's not the intention of this particular area to do that. It's merely a vehicle to acquire this land, to hold it in time, give us protection while we own it, to clean it up, the federal government has agreed to do that. As I told you, they're back speaking as we speak this very minute. I think it's far superior to having the Hall County acquire it. I think this is palatable to get it back into the hands of a functioning business and put it back on the tax rolls and support and promote industry. It's an excellent opportunity. Very seldom do you have 18 square acres adjoining a city of Grand Island's size. There's lots of dreams and theories out there. Where it's going to end up we don't know, but it's the first step, I believe, and a vehicle to acquire that land in an orderly fashion. I ask that you support and vote for LB 494. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You've heard the motion. The motion is to advance LB 494. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance the bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The bill is advanced. Mr. Clerk, LB 837.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB 837 was introduced by Senator Wesely. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 19 of this year, referred to the Banking Committee. That committee reports the bill to General File with committee amendments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Landis, is this on the committee amendments?

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, LB 837 was advanced 8-0 by the Banking Committee. We did make an amendment to the bill and, in fact, we put a second bill into LB 837. LB 837 is an alteration of a bill passed last year that many of you cosigned and voted for, LB 1222, the Small Group Health Insurance Availability Act, trying to make available to small groups and small employers health insurance at reasonable costs. The largest company that could use 1222 had 25 or fewer employers. Senator Wesely, in LB 837, raises that from 25 employers to 50 employers as the cap of small employers who could use this Small Employer Health