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to just sign a paper rather than to testify because of the amount of time it would take and the fact that the testimony would be repetitive, so Mr. Bradley was the only one to appear against it. Others on the city council who'd oppose it like Mr. L. K. Smith and Warren Swagger because under this bill they would both be in the same district and they would have to run against each other. I think Mr. Jacob Berger, who is the current President of the City Council and running for mayor, is opposed to it because he knows that the people presently on the council probably couldn't win election in the district where they live and by coincidence, one of the individuals, the only lady on the council, Mrs. Betty Abbott, who is a very nice person, used to do commercials on television for Mr. Jacob Berger's laundry while he was President of the city council and she was a member of the city council. Mr. L. K. Smith, who is now a member of the council, used to be the Public Safety Director and the Chief of Police under former mayor Sorenson. Former mayor Sorenson is opposed to council election by districts. He helped Mr. L. K. Smith get on the city council. Mr. Jacob Berger and Mr. Leahy were having some concern about who was going to be mayor this next time around, so Mr. Jacob Berger, president of the council, said he would not run if Mr. Leahy was going to run. So Mr. Leahy, who is also opposed to district election, said that he would not run. So until he announced that he would not run, Mr. Jacob Berger wouldn't say anything. So this city council and the other high level members of the government in Omaha are all like a tight little family. Four out of seven can control the city. That's why we have dumping and neglect of east Omaha which is a poor white area, a general neglect of the near North side as it is called which is my area which is poor and black. Stink plants dumped in South Omaha which is another poor white mixed ethnic group area with no representation on the council. We have Millard which has people, I guess, of all types of economic standing who happen to be white with no representation on the council, therefore, they are annexed without a vote of the people. I think that this bill ought to be advanced. It is needed in Omaha. It deals with one of the basic and most fundamental principles of representative government and I hope Patrick Henry of the Legislature is listening because he was talking about the rights of the people and the people have the right to be elected in every agency of government that deals with their welfare. An organized body which is elected by the people should be a miniature portrait of the people being represented. Whenever a system of election accomplishes the end of systematically denying certain people representation on that body, then it's clear that discrimination is built into the system of election. We have to devise a system which is as fair as possible and here's the last comment. A proposal was defeated in November which said elect six members for the council by district and three at large. I opposed that because I felt it had a built-in inequality. The districts for one thing would be too large. Each would have 60,000 people but, in addition to that, a wealthy or affluent neighborhood could pick up all three of the at large positions because only wealthy people have the means to canvass the entire city. Only wealthy people have the means to canvass the entire city, so one district would have conceivably wound up with four representatives out of a council of nine. All they needed to do was pick up one more and that one district would control the entire city with the same tight fist that the four members of the council who make a majority can control it now.

SPEAKER: There is a motion on the desk. Read the motion.

CLERK: Read.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Snyder.