

SPEAKER: Go ahead, sir.

SENATOR GOODRICH. O.K. Now, there is a motion pending on the Clerk's desk which, can we take up that motion first?

CLERK: Motion read.

SENATOR GOODRICH: O.K. Now, when this bill was heard in committee, there was some discussion of including, of the propriety of including forestry lands in the bill. The committee saw fit to advance the bill without striking the word "forestry" or the reference to forestry lands and I am going to suggest that we go ahead and strike out the forestry lands in the bill since that is covered in another constitutional amendment which is sponsored by Senator Syas and consequently, we don't need it in this section, in this bill in other words. Then this bill would be reduced to the point where all it would affect would be the fact that we as a Legislature could, if this constitutional amendment was passed, provide by general law that by a partial tax relief we could encourage the reconstruction, redevelopment, rehabilitation of obsolete, decadent and blighted areas and whatever we did in that, assuming that this passed, survived the election, we could then write a bill offering partial tax relief in the redevelopment of blighted areas. This is the only way that I know of that we can encourage the redevelopment of blighted areas. We have got several Federal programs that have attempted to do this very thing but we, they obviously have not got the job done. So, consequently, we need some tool with which we can do the job and this is the only way we've been able to figure out to encourage the redevelopment of blighted areas to provide decent standard housing for people in the low income bracket. There is one other amendment that was referred to in the amendment the Clerk read and that's on line 14 and it refers to the time in which the partial tax relief could be given and it says in there it could be given not exceeding 25 years. That's too long, frankly and I'm amending that down to 15 years and that pretty well explains the bill. If there are any questions, I would be glad to answer them.

SPEAKER: Chair recognizes Senator Keyes, then Senator Warner. We have before us actually the Goodrich amendment to L.B. 72.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. President, I don't like to take opposition to my good friend just across the border, Senator Goodrich, but I'm going to. I'm going to explain just a little bit what this constitutional amendment will do. It will simply state that we can take part of the property of this State and not assess it at 35% but assess it at any percent that this Legislature sees fit to do and if a developer or anyone gets ahold of a piece of land and he is going to call it a blighted area and he is going to bring it back on the tax rolls and he is going to develop it to anything that he wants to and will have, say he is going to be taxed at 10% of the value or, as Mr. Rittums put out when he was down there, that it would carry the tax valuation that it had before it was improved. You don't know and I know a lot of people aren't paying attention what this is going to do, what the implications of what this could do. This simply means that a lot of the property in the State of Nebraska instead of being taxed if this becomes law, could be taxed at 15, 20 or 10 or maybe just what it was beforehand. It's a developer's paradise, I can tell you that. It means that, Senator Chambers, they could go into the territory in which you come from and I hope you and I can see eye to eye on one or two things on this session of Legislature without each other character entering into it. This means that they could take the area where Senator Chambers comes, at the present valuation it is, tear it down and put in a high rise apartment, put in a shopping center, put in anything they want to and carry the tax load now for 15 years at the present tax. That would mean that the Southroads and the Eastroads or the