

ties and they want to have the capability to pay for those parking facilities. That mostly would be done either by revenue bonds or creating a parking district and assessing the property within that district. So these are the two methods that basically can be used for the construction of parking facilities. We have made sure in the bill that the City of Omaha will not go in private business and compete with existing private parking companies. Therefore the bill does say and the committee amendments do say that they have to lease these facilities to a private company and they can operate it only under one condition that no private company can be found. Otherwise, they have to be leased. They also do have restrictions on use of eminent domain and also restrictions in not being able to include any residential area in such a parking district if that is what the city wants to propose. I move the adoption of the committee amendments. I do say again the committee amendments are the bill. If you have any other questions, I will be happy to answer that and I think I will take over from Senator Brennan who is not here at the moment who originally carried the bill.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Venditte.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, living not too far from downtown Omaha, as a matter of fact about six blocks away, I can assure you that one of the major problems existing in downtown Omaha right now is lack of adequate parking. I do think this bill is certainly a step in the right direction certainly to enhance the redevelopment of the downtown area, and in addition too, I think it would promote more interest in people clear across the City of Omaha to want to come back to the downtown area and, Senator George, just a question or two if I may.

SENATOR GEORGE: Yes.

SENATOR VENDITTE: In the committee amendments, on page 2 of the committee amendments, line, I guess it's line 2, it would be two words in there, "parking meters", the city may pledge the revenue from any facility or parking meter. Where is that money currently going, Senator George?

SENATOR GEORGE: It goes, I believe, in the general fund of the city. Let's not, well, yes, I had better mention it, let's not confuse it with fines, parking fines by Constitution go to school fund but the money that actually goes in the parking meter goes to the general fund of the city and here in this case, if they want to issue revenue bonds, they