

individual, no corporation, no subdivision of government shall be treated any differently under the law. As I have said earlier and you have heard me say it on this floor, the City of Omaha is one of our largest subdivisions of government. They have many problems but this Legislature by virtue of legislation introduced by myself and by the Ag and Environment Committee has made it possible for the city to receive millions of dollars to improve their sewage disposal systems and solid waste disposal systems and other problems that they have in that city. I will stand here and argue in support of that idea as much as it is possible for me to do so. Because of its size, Omaha is entitled to many of those dollars and I suffer no embarrassment for having argued for that appropriation but I think that in this instance the city should live within the law just as anyone else would have to do and I know many fine people in Omaha who do not live near the balefill who have told me they are willing to spend the money that is necessary either to move it out of town or to clean it up but that it definitely should not continue to be operated in the manner in which it is operated. In fairness to the city and in fairness to the Department of Environmental Control I want to say this, that if the site were located in the middle of a section out in the country away from the residential area, it would be a very fine operation but it is not in a rural area. It is not in an area away from people. It is an area where there are many fine homes, very fine hardworking people, people proud of their homes, proud of their property and they deserve to have someone show some interest in their problem. There is no doubt in my mind but that the valuation of the property in that area has decreased tremendously due to the balefill site, yet the people have told me that their taxes have increased in the past few years as has everyone elses. I think this is another infringement upon their rights. I would hope that the resolution would be adopted. I would hope also that before the time comes that this committee would be called upon for any major inspection program that the problem could be resolved. I was very pleased to hear the city council member, Mr. Rosenblatt, state that they were negotiating with a firm for a new bale site outside of the city. I don't know where it is located but I know that it is possible to move the bales to an area where the residents are not put in such close proximity. Then I heard only several days ago Mayor Veys announcing very emphatically that the bale site would stay there for another fifteen years. If the bale site is going to be there for another fifteen years, ladies and gentlemen, I want to guarantee you this, it will be in a much better condition, much better