

March 4, 1982

LB 634

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR KILGARIN: I move the E & R amendments to LB 634.

SENATOR CLARK: You heard the motion. All those in favor say aye, opposed. The amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have an amendment from Senator Beutler. Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend the bill: (Read Beutler amendment found on page 1000, Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, it looked like we moved right along this afternoon while the Public Works Committee was talking about bid rigging. As you all may recall, this is the bill that expands or would let the voters vote to expand the Industrial Development Bond Act to basically include enterprises, including now commercial enterprises, so that you are getting into the situation where big business who is able to use industrial development bonds will be financing at lower rates of interest enterprises that will compete with other business in the same area, perhaps smaller businesses who cannot afford the industrial development bond tax exempt financing and, thereby, create an unfair competitive situation. Now there are other arguments against this bill, as you all are aware. I am very much opposed to this kind of financing, particularly or at least in instances where there is no strong argument that competition with other states is a factor involved. So my amendment to 634 is simply an attempt to limit the damage from my point of view, to make the bill not applicable to Lancaster County or to any place in the state other than Douglas County, a city of the metropolitan class, so that if Senator Newell and those from Omaha would like to push this kind of proposition off onto their own people, that is fine but don't subject my small businessmen to this kind of competition. So the amendment does just that. It would eliminate it. It would make the proposition apply only to a city of the metropolitan class. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Howard Peterson.

SENATOR HOWARD PETERSON: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I would take it that Mr. Beutler would say there are no blighted areas in Lincoln from what he is saying and I can tell him there are blighted areas in Grand Island, that we would like to have this bill and I would particularly like to have the whole State of Nebraska have the opportunity to vote