

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 25 was a resolution offered by Senators Lynch, Hannibal, Hartnett, Ashford, Hall, Withem, Beyer, Abboud, Labedz, Vard Johnson, Goodrich, Pirsch and Chizek. It is found on page 337 of the Journal. (Read title.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Lynch, please.

SENATOR LYNCH: Thank you, Mr. President and Father Barrett for your blessing. It is self-explanatory. I won't go into a lot of detail, but I think it is important for the Legislature as a body to go on record regarding our concern for this industry potentially leaving the state and acknowledging to that company as well that we do understand the importance that they play in their economic role and the jobs that they provide for us. We think that Nebraska has an awful lot to offer. I'm not sure what it will take, in fact, to keep them. I understand a lot of us are not quite sure. A recent study I think has some holes in it and I think we could argue and debate that. However, it is what the Chief Executive Officer and his...also corporation officers decide. A resolution like this could help and, if it might, I think it is worthy of our consideration and I'd ask for the adoption of this resolution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I'd like to...Mr. Speaker, or Mr. President, excuse me, and members, I'd like to rise in support of the resolution as well. I think as a Lincoln senator, I think we need to recognize that ConAgra's impact is statewide, not just Omaha and I know the Omaha senators, by and large, have co-sponsored this resolution, but I think recognizing the impact ConAgra has on Omaha and the state is very important, I would say there is some questions about the data that they are using and perhaps some of the information can be challenged. I think we need to look at that and meet with them and discuss the concerns that they have. But nevertheless, I think what we are saying here is that you are important to the state, that we want to keep you here and we want to work with you. I want to emphasize again their statewide impact by referring to the Nebraska Shares Project we had last year. Senator Schmit and I went to ConAgra back in 1985, asked for some assistance in trying to care for the hungry in the world and they came forward with a generous contribution and were major supporters of that effort, and I think that and other examples can be found time and again where ConAgra has been a