

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, coll...Madam President, colleagues, it seems like in politics perception is reality. And it appears to me that this is an attempt to, somewhere down the road, damage some of the successful economic development legislation that we've enacted in this state. Now it may appear that putting this...this money in the form of a deficit is really not that big of a deal. But I know every day I go back and look at my little agenda there, and I look at where my...the budget is going to be, and I look at the bills that are going to cost us money, and the bills that are going to provide additional revenue to the State of Nebraska. And I find that with putting the enterprise zone in the context of a deficit appropriation is, in a sense, viewing it as a loss of revenue rather than an increase of revenue, rather than an increase in jobs, individuals that will pay income and sales tax and property taxes for the State of Nebraska. And, from that perspective, I don't think it's a clear picture. I think that the enterprise zones will create jobs, and with those jobs increased revenue for the state and cities and schools, and that is not factored in. And for that reason, I think we're only looking at one facet of the enterprise zones. Instead of looking at the positive aspects of it, we're looking at the negative aspects. If we get no businesses to come into our state then we will have no revenue loss either. If we have no businesses that take advantage of the enterprise zones, we will have no deficits to report. I think we should take a perspective of trying to be positive about this and not take the perspective of viewing this as a loss of revenue, but rather a gain in revenue. And for that purpose, I'm going to be opposing the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Madam Chairman and members of this body, and the members who are eating and watching on TV, I must admit that I have been enlightened. Some people came up, well, Senator Warner, not Senator Warner, but Senator Moore and Senator Schellpeper and some other senators came up to me and they explained to me in terms I could understand, and it wasn't easy for them to do this, just exactly what the Warner amendment does. And you know then I started to listen a little bit closer and I heard Senator Hall say, the enterprise might be located in his district or in Omaha, he said one or the other, might be.