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FLOOR DEBATE

March 25, 2003      LB 608

this amendment that was just added, that's supposed to benefit the commun...the rural communities, will that amendment really achieve that purpose? Are we going to see businesses springing up in rural Nebraska? Who has \$1 million that he or she wants to invest in a dying part of the state? What kind of business is it? I don't even think a funeral home would be successful under this program, although if it was the only one in the county, it might, and I'm not trying to be facetious. But I don't know of any funeral home, I don't know of any that hires 10 people. There are funeral homes that are now parts of a national chain, so maybe even that line of work is out as far as getting money under this proposal. LB 608 has become a shell. I hope it doesn't become a shell game. If you advance it, perhaps, as some people have suggested, additional work will be done and maybe we can get some disclosure, maybe we can do something about health insurance for employees, and maybe we can jettison the sham called the rural component. I don't even know for sure what people have in mind when they say rural. So we don't even need to figure that out because there is a population standard. If the county has fewer than 20,000 people, or 20,000 and fewer, then it can qualify under this rural component. I think it's a sham. Once again, it can create the set of circumstances by its very existence where the rural community can be told, don't come here looking for anything because you've got LB 608. You've got to get the Chamber of Commerce to go out and hustle up some people. You got to show that you're attractive as a place for a business to establish itself and be able to hire 10 people. It's not going to work, in my opinion. I'm not being a naysayer. I just don't believe it's going to work. None of these things ever work when we talk about helping the rural communities. Never. And if you found one business that makes these plastic bottles, can you put one of those businesses in every county with 20,000 or fewer employ...people and make it? No. If you find one of them that works, does that justify the bill? Some people would say yes. I don't even think that's going to happen. What you might do is entice somebody out there in the water and they'll drown. They're not going to stay in business. At least with Senator Landis saying that the threshold is \$3 million,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.