

telecommu...well actually it's not being spent in the telecommunications division and Department of Economic Development. Having worked on that issue for the last couple of years and been frustrated at the lack of action, we said there's got to be a better way to utilize those resources. And we looked at this program. Oregon has got something statewide, and we looked at the local effort here in Lincoln, and decided for the amount of money we're talking about we can get the biggest bang for the buck in economic development through this type of an effort. So we are proposing that the money, now designated to go to the telecommunications division of the Department of Economic Development, which has not been functioning, go into this effort and match that money with local money across the State of Nebraska. Probably setting up maybe around a half dozen or so local, regional match-making projects like the Lincoln one. The Lincoln one would continue and we'd have these across the state, so the whole State of Nebraska would be covered. The Panhandle, as indicated in the handouts that I have an interest, Omaha, and we've gotten indications from around the state. So what we would do is, for instance, have these locations and put \$25,000 of state money up, matched by \$25,000 locally, there you have the \$50,000, which is what the Lincoln operation functions on. You'd hire staff and these people would work with local businesses, identifying their purchasing needs, identifying their suppliers, looking through the network into other suppliers potentially around the state, and being able to bring home that business that is now going outside of Nebraska. The concept is very simple. The program, I think, is very effective. It will end up accomplishing some very good things for the state. The concept, I talked about match-maker. It's a buy Nebraska concept without having the mandate there. This is a positive effort to buy Nebraska. By encouraging people and identifying these resources, and by working with these people we'll be able to keep that business here. Other concepts, import substitution, import replacement, this is the idea behind this piece of legislation. I have passed out a number of pieces of material about this. I'd be happy to answer any questions. We are continuing to work with different chambers of commerce and regional development districts. It's likely we'll be back on Select File to ask for potentially some amendments to the bill, but we're very excited about the local input. We're excited about the potential of this statewide. We do have a lot of excited people around the state ready to work on this project. Again, what we're trying to do is send the money through the department and into the