

been that it's duplicative of other efforts and, frankly, the department has not shown any particular ability to coordinate efforts. They're, for whatever reason, not particularly well received sometimes as coordinating bodies. The amendment that Senator Haberman introduces at least makes some sense if you're going to do field offices, but I have an amendment filed up there later on that you ought to take a look at if you must do field offices, put them where there isn't any service at all. You have a second map that shows the white spots are areas that are not currently members of any development district at all. Senator Schmit, Saunders County is kind of out there and we don't know for sure where they are. We know they don't belong to one. Douglas and Sarpy are part of MAPA. Southeastern Nebraska Development District would probably reasonably be expected to serve Lancaster, Gage and Jefferson although they don't currently. The other colored in areas the development districts currently serve. The places that you really don't have any access to service are...is that big white spot out in the middle and kind of centrally located, would be Ainsworth, Ord and Red Cloud. I have an amendment up there that if you're going to do field offices, that's where I'd put them because those are truly those towns that Senator Schellpeper was talking about who don't have any services, but I personally would support beyond that. I think it makes more sense to do rural development the way Senator Baack is saying that he wants to do it with this small town granting process for the reason being that it doesn't do any good to send some wonder out from Lincoln who may live in that community a year or two and then pump up his or her resume and then be gone. We need to spend money out there to build human infrastructure in small rural communities who like small rural communities, who think there is some reason to preserve them and to develop some skill out there and the locations currently proposed don't do that at all. So I think there is great potential to do duplication, to not achieve any coordination and it's just unrealistic to think, as Senator Baack says, did anybody come to any of you who are rural senators from DED and ask you how might we best help rural Nebraska? They didn't come to me, don't think they came to anybody in here. I don't think they do understand what to do about rural Nebraska and I'm glad somebody wants to help us, but I think it would be well-advised to come out and talk to people about what is it you need, how can we make you stronger, how can we make you less dependent on state government? Senator Withem told me he'd vote for this if I characterized that agency as a large bird you usually associate with Thanksgiving that