

time. I don't know how you're going to get any work done, all you're going to do is drive around. So I don't think that's a very well thought out piece of work. I would urge you to keep this amendment in place, it makes sense to me. In fact I don't know who is around here, Senator Rogers, Senator Lamb, Senator Dierks, Senator Elmer, and some of the others that represent areas that are close to where these sites are,...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: ...I guess could speak a lot more eloquently than I about how much service there isn't available to their constituents. Let me also make one more point. I don't know how many of you had your little economic developers call you yesterday, but I had a lot of my folks call me saying, gee, we got this little call from DED and we're very concerned about getting that call. Now, none of them said they got threatened, in fact they hurried to say they did not. I want to raise an ethical question. Do you think it's ethical for an agency to call your constituents to have them call you to lobby for an agency's budget when we're raising legitimate questions about how effectively that agency serves you? I don't think that's proper, I don't care what agency it is, it annoys me when paid state employees stand behind the glass and act like paid lobbyists. I think that is wrong. I want to go on record for the interests of my little guys that, yeah, they made the call, because I think they were scared not to, scared that might somehow affect the service they get out of DED. I don't think that's proper. I think the Governor should speak to that agency and all other agencies that are engaged in that. I think...I've already spoken to the director of that agency, and I think he ought to raise that with his employees as well. I simply don't think that's proper. Finally, let me just say that some questions have been raised about the role and mission of DED. You're right, we give them an impossible job to do. And maybe they are trying to do too much. And I think we ought to take a serious look at the whole role and mission of that agency, and what in fact they should be doing, and what in fact maybe they are getting into that they can't hope to succeed anyway. It's probably appropriate we do that every once in a while.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: But I want you to know I was dead serious about the changes, I think it's in the best interests of rural Nebraska. And, in fact, if you're going to do field offices, that is the way I'd do it. I still think Senator Baack has a