

May 5, 1989

LB 813

Where do we find, in statute, that defines what the job description is of this regional developer they're going to put in my area? How is this regional developer in North Platte going to go out and help Hershey?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yeah, Senator Baack, I don't know...How much time does Senator Baack have remaining?

PRESIDENT: Two minutes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I'm going to take at least a minute and a half of that to respond to you. I'm next on the speaker's list, so I would directly respond to that, so you have the rest of your time to make your points.

SENATOR BAACK: I would appreciate it, if you would do that, because I...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I will.

SENATOR BAACK: ...I don't see anything in here that talks about the role and mission of these people. And from what I've seen in the past, I don't think they do anything. I think they sit in an office and talk to federal people and talk to Lincoln, but I don't see them out working in the communities, doing the kinds of things that communities need to be done in the local areas, I don't see that happening.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Similar to the...

SENATOR BAACK: And I want to know what we're going to do in this bill and how that's going to change? What are we going to change? Is DED going to change something that is going to change their role and mission in these small communities?

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BAACK: Are the things that we're doing in 639, are they going to add enough flexibility to the Department of Economic Development that now they're going to change their role and mission and they're actually going to get serious about rural economic development, because I don't think they've ever been serious about rural economic development. They've been worried about the larger towns and development in those areas, but they have not been concerned about rural economic development. Are