

they aren't able to answer all their questions, they have access to the local state college or the local university, and there they team up and work with these businesses. They are there to serve a function beyond public relations, and in my estimation, this is the way we need to go. They are better dispersed around the state. They are more easily accessed. Again, as Senator Scofield talked about how North Platte is so far away from her area of the state. Well, Scottsbluff would be included in here and they would be much closer to her area. In addition, the other two towns not benefiting from this...yeah, Chadron would be in her district, that is right. So Chadron and Scottsbluff would both be covered under this amendment. In addition, Norfolk and Beatrice would not have the regional office, but just down the road from Norfolk is Wayne State. They have got an NBDC office right there in the City of Wayne, not far away, and they have the actual people that are doing the job that needs to be done. In Beatrice, they are not that far from Peru, over in Senator Morrissey's District, and there they have a NBDC office. It has been doing a good job, working with the state college, and there they could just drive down the road and have that assistance. It is no different than from Wayne driving to Beatrice. It is just a difference of where your location is. So in my estimation, ending up trying to provide this assistance through these business development centers is much wiser use of resources.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. And then back to the original concerns here, at some point, I may end up going through a litany on the Department of Economic Development, and what all problems we have had with that department over the years. Senator Bernard-Stevens has talked about bashing the department, and I have got to admit, I have done my share of it, and I would be glad to do some more, but if we are going to talk in a constructive fashion here, let's talk about how we can actually accomplish the goal of economic development, how best to use \$235,000...

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, may I interrupt you. I told you one minute. You have six minutes left.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I won't need all of that. I just, the point is, let's not start up new offices when we have existing offices. Let's not set up a new system when we have