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somebody picks up the phone when they call the NBDC center they also, in essence, have a direct link to DED. That DED person then can travel those areas, they can perform all the functions that they intended but I think that we would be saving ourselves some money with respect to brick, mortar, additional knowledge of letting them know that these people are...field people are out there and when somebody calls DED they also know they are linking up with a field person associated with DED when they call the NBDC center. So I think if we want to identify a justification for four sites for DED field offices, we ought to put them where people would expect them to be and that would be directly in conjunction with NBDC offices that are already out there, operating, well respected, have backlogs of cases, have that kind of input and basically what it would save in the long haul is that when there is an NBDC case, we know on that team in that NBDC center is a bona fide DED person who is under their authority and has the knowledge that they have that we ultimately have to contact on phone and have them get in the car and come out. That's what we're doing now. In essence, we just simply have that personnel out there. Using the same dollar figure, in essence, that would give about a little over \$58,000 per office to pay for that personnel and the kind of other additional travel and support that he may need to function out of that office maintaining the autonomy. I'm not saying putting them under the control of NBDC. It still would be DED, it just site specific and those four sites that we've already identified as the Nebraska Business Development Centers that have been operating effectively for quite some time. So it's kind of a bridge between the four sites that were identified. Senator Wesely's concept of keeping them linked to something we're already spending a lot of money on and have proven success track record in terms of economic development and aid too, particularly to small communities and the small businesses. Large projects as they come through and as they have come through my office in Wayne, typically, ultimately get referred to DED and we end up packing up people and coming here or requesting DED people to going up there. It isn't the question of recruiting large businesses. We're talking about support people out for the small communities and I think this would very much bridge the whole conflict that we have going on here, saving some money, brick and mortar, and making sure everyone is working in a cooperative fashion. So with that, I offer this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please,