

May 16, 1989

LB 813

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Conway would move to amend the bill. (Conway amendment appears on page 2121 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Conway, please.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. As we were working on LB 813 the other day on General File the discussion came up relative to the DED offices and their locations. And there was quite a bit of argument and discussion relative to DED and I think debate was good. One of the things that I raised at that time, and didn't press the issue by virtue of the membership that was ready to vote at that point in time and the like, that I wanted to bring back on Select today, and I started to discuss it this morning. And again there was a bit of weakness on the floor, so I'm not going to take very much time. And I think most people that have cruised around the floor and talked to understand what I'm attempting to do. I kind of liken it to that commercial we hear on the radio all the time on the Prego sauce, it's in there, there's lots of things in there that many of you may not like. But, if we're talking about \$235,000 for the field offices for DED, that's not at question, that's in there. If you look at the extent to which Senator Haberman's amendment identified one of those offices had to be in a community below \$5,000 (sic), that's not what I'm bringing up, that's in the bill and it's in there, it's just not going to be changed at this point. What I did want to concern myself with with this amendment is simply to leave everything intact, the \$235,000 as we decided on General File was going to be there, the fact that there was going to be four sites identified, that is in there. The fact that one community under \$5,000...or 5,000 population, that's in there. What I did want to do, though, was to try to get the biggest bounce for the buck that we can for this 235,000. Now, if you take 235,000, you divide it by 4, you're looking at \$58,750 is what each field office would be allocated to run the facilities. With that money, by the time you hire a professional, hire any kind of staff support that may go along with it, travel money that would go with it, rent the office, telephones and so forth, those offices, I don't think, are going to be able to be equipped to do much of anything. So what this amendment attempts to do is to identify the four sites for those field offices to be at...in the same locations as where we have the Nebraska Business Development Centers who have been doing a lot of the cooperative work with DED for the last ten years. In those sites we have a