

NBDC locations.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens please followed by Senator Moore.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you Mr. President and members of the body. I was hoping that we laid this issue to rest as this is an amendment that was brought up on General File that was defeated on General File after thorough discussion of at least the issue. To kind of refresh the body as to the discussion, if you remember the first time the areas, the topic of branch offices of the Department of Economic Development came up the body had a very good, what I call psychological session because a lot of the frustrations pent up over the years on various projects here and there, that various members who have been here for many years have had through different people within DED and different administrations. They vented those frustrations. And, the people, I assume, felt a lot better after that. And we decided by closing debate quickly with not letting a lot of people discuss the issue that we were going to set the branch offices and other areas that were not proposed by the governor or not advanced by the Appropriations Committee. Upon thinking about it overnight, the issue was brought up again, carried over to the next day, the body thoroughly developed or discussed the issue. We rediscussed the issue thoroughly for a couple of hours again and the body's will was decided. We were going to have branch offices of Economic Development in the state, we were going to put three of them where the governor would like for them to be and the Department of Economical Development would like for them to be and one of them we agreed with Senator Haberman's try an experiment for a community of 5,000 or less. I, like Senator Conway, do not want to take a lot of time on the issue because we have already voted the issue down once and I would like to very quickly vote the issue down again. I do take a little bit of, I have to discuss a little bit what Senator Conway says, because I always find it interesting and it is so easy on the body to say well, a senator is from a particular area and a bill affects this particular area so that is the only reason they are behind the bill because they may lose something. I think that is a little stereo typical and a little bit unfair. As I mentioned to a few other senators on the floor that day when we discussed it last week and also today in discussing it briefly, I would say that I would be supportive of my position of keeping the branch office where we have already cited for them to be regardless of what town, regardless if North Platte