

you are going to end up regretting it sometime again. In addition, the bill talks about setting up an Existing Business Assistance Division. Then it goes on to talk about one of the responsibilities of the Existing Business Assistance Division is, the division, "Such assistance shall encourage the start-up of new businesses..." Okay, Existing Business Assistance Division is to help start up new businesses. You know, and the thing, it is obviously inconsistent, and in addition, the other elements that were in the original version of the bill called for a number of different things to assist in new businesses, and entrepreneurs and all of that is taken out under this legislation, and they talk about providing assistance for new businesses, but they call it the Existing Business Assistance Division, so, obviously, the Department of Economic Development is not really interested in entrepreneurial assistance and helping new ideas take form into new businesses. Their whole focus has been recruitment, business recruitment. That is the people that they have in charge. That is what they like. That is what they do best, and when they take off in a different direction, this Legislature is the one that sets policy, not the Department of Economic Development. Just like what Senator Bernard-Stevens talks about how we have got to let them do what they want to do, it is the Legislature that sets policy in this state, whether it be in health care or education or economic development or any other field. It is this Legislature representing the different areas of the state that is to determine how money is spent and how policy is to be initiated through statute and budget. And when we do that and we have it ignored, I simply think we have to stand up and say, no, we are not going to allow that to happen. Unfortunately, too often this body stands up and says, well, okay, I guess you can. But that is not what I want to do, and so I am telling you once again there are a litany of horror stories involved with the Department of Economic Development. We corrected some of them with legislation in 1986. We are about to go back to the sort of flexibility that got us into trouble in the first place, and I don't know how long it will be, but I think with the attitude over there in that department, it will be back again and then we will wish we hadn't made the changes we are about to make. With that, I will withdraw my motion to indefinitely postpone.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. It is withdrawn. The Chair is pleased to note that Senator Dierks has 28 K through 8th graders from Boone, Nebraska, District 74, in our north balcony with their teacher. Would you people please stand and be recognized