

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: The intent is...okay, essentially, what we're doing here is making a number of directive to the department as to developing a trade program, trying to give the department some different responsibilities, and primarily focusing on, first, the first year, dealing with the idea of working with the business community, working with different organizations and trying to see their needs, developing in state the staff support for foreign trade activity. That's really the first year and the first phase. And I...

SENATOR MOORE: If I may...if I may, if I...you're talking about working with the business community in Nebraska as to what their needs would be over there.

SENATOR WESELY: Right, right.

SENATOR MOORE: Okay.

SENATOR WESELY: And then, as we do that the first year, and I think the cost of doing this would be less than the original bill, you know, \$200,000 or so. The bill, I think, calls for 300,000. Then you would follow that up, the next year, with the foreign trade office that Senator Johnson envisions. That would be July 1, 1991. And, obviously, then we'd have a better idea of what the total cost of that would be. But, rather than go to a trade office immediately, you would go toward building the infrastructure within the state, and then move overseas with an office. The problem, Senator Moore, is that right now we only have two people, really one person, dealing with foreign trade in the department. And so, if you have an office over there, it really isn't going to link up back here in the states. The idea is to build within the state and then reach out overseas. It makes a lot more sense. And I have talked to Senator Johnson about it, and I think Senator Coordsen is in agreement and the concept. So I would...

SENATOR MOORE: One last question, Senator Wesely,...

SENATOR WESELY: Sure.

SENATOR MOORE: ...is that I know in the mid-eighties the state pulled back the reigns, so to speak, in some of our foreign