

marketing efforts in the Department of Economic Development. In many ways is this trying to go back...I mean the bill itself, I understand, is rebuilding that bridge, and you're just simply saying that as we rebuild it, in your opinion, you should, instead of just throwing the money right at the problem, right up front, you start to find out what direction you need to go for sure.

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah, yeah, the problem was we did cut back, and it's hurt us. And in addition, that foreign trade office we had in '80-81, back there, it was a failure. And it failed because we didn't have any support base back here. So the idea is get the support base and then send out another base somewhere else before we...I mean after we have the support back here in the state.

SENATOR MOORE: Okay, thank you, Senator Wesely.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Johnson, followed by Senator Ashford.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I have sort of fallen down on the job here in that I promised Senator Wesely I would visit with him about his amendment, which is basically the bill that he had introduced earlier this session on a very similar concept to LB 1019. As I've looked through it, and I've talked to my legal staff about this amendment, it's not that it does all that much different than what the original bill's concept does, it's a little more wordy. It does define, in some areas, a little more clearly than my original bill. Senator Ashford and I were just speaking here that he has some concerns that this amendment might preclude the department from doing more in the international area, and rather spend a lot of money building up a huge program here in Lincoln and not doing what we want it to do, which is basically to develop a program in this state to develop an international trade division, which will actually, eventually create an international trade office, which will give us a presence in the international market arena, which I think is sorely needed for this state. With as much as we have to offer the world, I think this is one way that we can do that. So really I have mixed emotions about the amendment. I don't know if it does any more than what the original bill does. But I will talk with Senator Wesely during the course of debate and then make a decision. But I really, you know, if it's adopted, that's fine with me, it doesn't really change the goals of the bill. But I just haven't had a chance to really sit down