

establishment of a second auxiliary teller facility were fighting words in the branching...in the banking industry. Today the Nebraska Bankers Association, I believe, is neutral on this bill, as they were...in fact, they were supportive of the bill which allowed the banking institutions to acquire a failed S & L. That is a statewide opportunity. This institution...this bill here pertains only as to the three counties that I have indicated and should not be controversial. I think we recognized on this floor a long time ago that the expansion of certain types of banking and the changes in certain types of banking structure was going to occur and will have to occur, and it is of interest to me that I have received a number of letters in support from institutions outside of these three counties have asked if it is possible for their institutions to be included in this same kind of an operation. In fact, a number of smaller institutions have indicated to me they would like very much to be able to establish a branch in one of these three counties, and try to bring some money from the more populated counties back to the rural areas, and I, frankly, do not look with disfavor on that idea, but I recognize that the idea is probably premature at this time. I think that we are going to see in the next few years some really serious adjustments in our business economy and in our agricultural economy. I don't think there is any doubt in anyone's mind but that we are going to face some real substantial credit needs in agriculture and face some real substantial needs in the three counties that I have mentioned here. We have on this floor sometimes with, sometimes without my support enacted a number of bills designed to encourage the location of businesses within this state. Those businesses are only going to come here if adequate financing is available, and if we are going to provide adequate financing, we have to be able to allow these institutions to broaden their base, and to secure the deposits that are necessary so as to be able to finance the new expansion that will take place. I know that there are some persons here who feel differently about this bill. They have some justifiable concerns. I will try to answer any questions anyone has. I know that over the years there have been some major accommodations and I appreciate the cooperation we have had from some of the persons who had originally some serious reservations about this bill. But I would just like to say that I think this bill is a necessary step in the transition and that it ought to become law. There are a number of persons here who may want to comment on it, but I would certainly hope that you can support the bill.