

interlocal agreements. As we traveled around this state and we listened to communities, the level of sophistication of these communities is really quite high in terms of understanding what they need to do to promote their own well-being regionally, and communities, time and again, have said, we know that if one community near us benefits, that we may benefit indirectly either in terms of housing development or jobs for our people who will drive into that other community. That is a significant change I think over perhaps what we might have seen 10 years ago. So I think that that is a point it is important to understand about this is, it isn't just going to be competition among towns, that these towns understand that their futures are linked together just as I would hope that our urban friends, our metropolitan friends understand that their destiny is linked to the well-being of the destiny of the communities across the state. The other point that I would emphasize here, too, in terms of the need to make sure that industries develop that make sense for Nebraska. Our number one industry is agriculture and more than likely many of the activities that might be considered here I think will be those kinds of activities that would add value to agricultural products. I cited the one earlier that Chadron is continue...currently considering and I think we'll continue to see a major emphasis on not just exporting our production, but to use this as a tool to add value to our agricultural products which creates new jobs and encourages the production of wealth within our communities. Without these kinds of tools I think it's likely that those plants are going to be built across the state line some place. That's a real risk we run in the Panhandle is that it's just as easy to build one of these facilities across the state line if...you can't compete effectively and so I guess the point I want to make is I trust the people that I represent to make wise decisions about how their tax money is going to be spent. They're not going to vote for some hair-brained scheme. In fact, I think they're less likely to wade off into dangerous waters sometimes than we are because they are closer to the facts. They know the situation and the best decisions are made close to home. So I would urge you to advance LR 11, give people a chance to vote on it and give these...communities across the state to not only survive, but perhaps to prosper. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Mr. Clerk. The question is to advance the bill and I assume...Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Perhaps we should have a call of the house