

opportunity and take this opportunity to view it as a time that they don't have to live and die simply within the community they are in, but they have the ability to expand into other communities, take their services elsewhere and be much broader in their activities. It's a situation where as we do our financial business, we...and I don't worry about the financial institutions with respect to what this means to them. If we take the average deposit into an institution today, that deposit may or may not rest with that institution, they may move that money out in a CD via another institution, the institution you borrow from may be different. We look at affiliate institutions where we can go into one institution. They may not be able to serve the loan and have it underwritten by another institution, moving it through their financial institution. So that whole concept of banking in structure has changed so much to serve the public that I don't...I'm not at all fearful in venturing into this statewide branching opportunity for the institutions in the State of Nebraska, not for the benefit of the institutions, but I firmly believe for the benefit of the citizenry in this state. We still have a great deal of regulation, we still have the limitation in terms of any one financial institution overpowering by virtue of the caps that we have, the number of branches that they have. We still have all those things in place, we're just simply saying that they don't have to do business only within the confines of the city limits that they are currently located, but have that opportunity to venture out, again, not for the institution's sake, but for the citizenry of the State of Nebraska, so I strongly endorse the advancement of 457 and believe that it's a bold step in a positive fashion. So with that, I hope the body will advance it to E & R Initial.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, would you like to close on the advancement? Senator Schmit, would you like to close on the advancement of the bill, please?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I believe that the bill has been adequately discussed. I believe that we all understand the provisions of the bill, I believe understand the benefits of the bill. I believe that the bill needs to go to Select File. There may be some concerns from certain areas and I am sure that we will hear from them, but certainly, that's the way the process works. I think that, again, we need to make those decisions here on this floor as Senator Landis indicated. Senator Warner's amendment was a very good amendment. It brought the issue full center and focused where it ought to be