

PRESIDENT: Are you reading the amendment now?

SENATOR WARNER: No.

PRESIDENT: No. Okay, Senator Warner, proceed, please.

SENATOR WARNER: What I'm stating, I'll...generally what the amendment does it strikes bulk of the reference to that a whole lot of legislation was passed solely or primarily for ConAgra. It strikes those references. It doesn't strike the reference to the Country Store but it does strike the reference that...because, obviously, there is a whole lot of businesses in Nebraska, and I didn't vote for the bill, you know, that benefit from it and I struck those kinds of references. But the statement I would like to read first, ConAgra...which was given to me this morning, ConAgra appreciates the opportunity to make a statement to the Legislature regarding LR 419 and the headquarters of the Country General Stores in Grand Island. In total, ConAgra employs about 1,800 people in Grand Island, principally in a meat processing plant and in nonheadquarters operations of Country General Stores. Country General Stores headquarters employs about 100 people. There are, in fact, discussions between ConAgra and Tractor Supply Company. These discussions have not been concluded. Therefore, there is no decision to merge companies, let alone a decision to move either headquarters. These are similar to many such discussions between ConAgra and other companies, most of which do not lead to business combinations. The 1987 economic development package indeed was good for Nebraskans. The package has attracted over \$2.5 billion in new investment and has led to the creation of more than 22,000 new jobs. ConAgra is proud of the Nebraska Legislature's courage and commitment represented by the economic development package. When you enacted the package by a resounding majority, you sent a clear message that Nebraska is good for business. ConAgra is also proud of the role our company played in supporting the economic development package and in contributing to Nebraska's economic development growth. Since 1987, ConAgra has committed to adding over 800 new jobs in Nebraska as part of four major projects in Omaha, South Sioux City, Hastings and Lincoln. Moreover, ConAgra's total employment in Nebraska has risen from about 500 people 10 years ago to 5,000 today. Finally, ConAgra wants to assure you of two things. We are sensitive to and give full consideration to the effects of business decisions on people and communities. And,