

get together, and they need to start working out standards on local tax incentives, what will be offered and what won't be offered, so we don't play this game of being whipsawed by business into concessions that in the end do not give an advantage to any community. They, basically, end up just giving subsidies to business. That is how it works in the end. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Hillman, followed by Senator Nelson.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Madam Chairman, the economic bill isn't necessarily always putting communities in competition. You are not only looking at bringing, perhaps, a new business in, but sometimes you are looking at expansion of a local business. You are looking at small communities, and I have heard it said that the infrastructure is in place. The infrastructure is not in place in many small communities. The private sector...what it allows is private-public sector partnerships. In a lot of small communities, you cannot go out and raise the money privately that you can in some of the larger ones to, perhaps, improve, maybe it is just lengthen a road, pave a road. It isn't necessarily always just giving a business a break, or a tax break, or an incentive. It allows a small community to evaluate themselves, to say what it is that we have missing that we need to do, take that plan to the voters and show how, as a community, not just with tax money, but with private money that they can retain jobs, create more jobs, and allow that community to survive. Without some mechanism to allow some public and private partnerships, there are a lot of towns that just will not be able to do it at all, and not only will they not increase any jobs in those communities, they will lose. I think there has been a lot of time spent on this bill looking at protecting the taxpayer, allowing them to make a good decision on a plan that has been thought through. There are caps on it. The group that put this together took a long time to look at protecting the taxpayer, and, again, it is up to the individual community, their needs, and how they wish to continue to do business in their community. So I would strongly urge the body to support this bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Madam President, I was not even going to add my two cents on this bill. I, too, may be one that may not be