

progress as we thought we did. But it's kind of interesting that there's a lot of different points of view on this amendment and on this bill today. Many of my friends in the Independent Banking Association today support this concept, support the bill, who 10 or 15 years ago would not have done so. They recognize many of the changes. But I just want to say to some of my friends who are in the Rotunda today, whom we, frankly, haven't seen all year, that you can't come down and pull rabbits out of a hat and that my colleagues on the floor here, and Senator Landis has very politely told you, are interested in what goes on in the banking industry and how it impacts upon the entire State of Nebraska, upon your county, your city, your community. And with the branching that we have allowed to take place in the past, has not in every instance worked to the advantage of the local community. Some of those institutions do not reinvest in the local community as they ought to. They're bankers, they want to get the highest return. We can't blame them for that. So you can't abandon the small communities, ladies and gentlemen, and expect this Legislature to give additional responsibility under the law for additional branching. As I said, I don't see it as a big threat. I know what the institutions want to do. They want to be able to compete with the various auxiliary teller facilities. They want to be able to compete with the automated teller facilities. They want to be able to compete with the Sears Roebuck and the many other forms of credit that are available to you today. And I applaud them for that. But it doesn't stop there. It doesn't stop there. When you get into Podunk, Nebraska, ladies and gentlemen, you have got to do more than put up a building and hire a couple of people. You've got to show some interest in that area. I think that there is support for this amendment to a certain extent. There will be more. Time will prove that the amendment is probably correct. I do not know if the time is today. I do not know how many votes Senator Labeledz has. I know she has worked to build some. I would just suggest this, when you look at this amendment and you look at the bill, look back a ways and see where we were 20 years ago, 10 years ago, five years ago.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Remember also that if we had not done some of the things we did in the seventies, when the eighties came along at the time of disaster there would be many communities, including some of my own that would not have financial