

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Wesely. Discussion. Senator Moore.

**SENATOR MOORE:** Yes, Mr. Speaker and members, if Senator Wesely would yield to some questions, please.

**SENATOR WESELY:** Sure.

**SENATOR MOORE:** Senator Wesely, you referenced LB 463, and in going through my green book I notice a fiscal note of \$100,000 per year and I guess my concern is if you put this intent language in, does that lead to some...is it...what is the part of the Economic Development's purpose for this intent language? Why do we need it to do any differently?

**SENATOR WESELY:** All right, that's a good question and you're right, there was an original A bill attached. The department feels that there is no need for an A bill. In fact, they see this as a function that they need to be and should be performing anyway. They would like an indication from the Legislature that we want to see a coordination occur with community economic development, that we do want to see the different entities. And here we're talking about state colleges, university and so on and so forth, regional economic development districts and many different entities now attempting to help community development. And the idea is that we need somebody to bring them all together to talk about what they're doing, to try and find out what each needs to be doing and to better coordinate amongst them. So they want a sign from us that we think coordination in this area is important. They don't need any money to do it and there is no desire or intent or anticipation of any funding whatsoever to do this.

**SENATOR MOORE:** Senator Wesely, and the DED already has the statutory authority to do this, I would assume?

**SENATOR WESELY:** Not clearly, no. There is a number of entities given a number of authority to move in this area. This is clearly an attempt to provide them the leadership to pull people together on this.

**SENATOR MOORE:** I know when LB 463 was introduced, I guess my...I don't have a problem with what you're trying to do, Senator Wesely, but I guess I'm wondering, does the intent