

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Hartnett. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President, and members, again, I rise to oppose this portion of the amendment. As Senator Warner pointed out, it was stripped from the bill in committee and that was the reason for the advancement of the bill. The question, I guess, that comes to mind is and the argument has been made that without this provision in the bill that there is no incentive for purposes...for purposes of relocation to an enterprise zone. The...you know, what is desired? The ability to have an enterprise zone in place to qualify for possible federal selection or the triple benefits? And I would tend to argue that I think it is the triple benefits as opposed to the enterprise zone legislation. There clearly must be an incentive, a partnership, if you will, on the part of the state for purposes of this kind of a proposal, this kind of a plan put in place. But we currently have one, it's called LB 270 and it allows for those kinds of benefits that many other states have yet to implement. They don't have these in place but yet we are told that if we do not triple those for purposes of the enterprise zone legislation, folks will not locate there. What they're saying is you have to up the ante. You have to up the ante before they would even consider moving into these areas. I guess, ladies and gentlemen, if there are companies that are out there who are looking at either relocating or expanding, they probably have taken advantage of LB 270 to date. They have probably already used those programs that are in place. I don't believe that the increase that would be called for under this portion of the Hartnett amendment would be incentive at all to any company outside of a company that may move in from outside the state. I don't know of any company that has moved in from outside the state for purposes of LB 270. It has not been the kind of and is not the kind of proposal when you're dealing with small companies that is going to be enough to get an owner, a CEO, an operator, whatever, to move from one state to the other. It's the kinds of things that currently are available when you package them together that make the difference and what they make the difference with are companies that are already existing within the state. That's what the experience has been with LB 270 over the five years that it's been in place. That's what the experience has been with 775 over the five years that it's been in place. They have been beneficial to companies that are within the state and, granted, we need to retain, protect, build