

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Are there other funds from DED or other sources that come close to what you're trying to do?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Obviously there are a lot of funds that are available through DED to help these kind of things, but nothing exactly like this insofar as the form of a partnership or the collaboration and the cooperation between the various agencies, communities and counties and et cetera.

SENATOR ROBINSON: What do the others do, just focus in on a single community or...?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well obviously DED has been a strong supporter of economic development in Nebraska and they have tried to help those communities who have a strong desire to have industry or whatever settle in your community, and they've been very supportive of that and I think that's why they're supportive of this because they understand that it can do more in bringing many of the agencies who are now are out there working for industrial and economic development together.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Taking Senator Maurstad's last few remarks, do you agree with him that you don't...he feels that it's not focusing in enough on rural areas. Do you agree with that statement or that analysis?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well I tell you what, my answer to that is, I'm very interested in some of the things that Senator Maurstad has said and I want to work with Senator Maurstad and Senator Bernard-Stevens and those who have questions because I think it's good that they're brought out and I would hope to be able to work with them if I can get this bill passed and to develop those kind of things that they think are important and can be incorporated in the final draft of the rules and regulations.

SENATOR ROBINSON: This cooperation and focus of the project could be on bringing in new business or enlarging a present business and...

SENATOR VRTISKA: That's right.

SENATOR ROBINSON: ...all types of that.