

they wanted to come. We know for a fact that that isn't true. They go to the state where they get the biggest benefit, and if we expect to bring industry into Nebraska to help support this state and take it off...the burden off of the agricultural sector, we are going to have to provide some kind of incentives, and that is the reason I've supported this bill. I was in with a group of people in my district over the weekend at a farm show, and I talked to a lot of people, and this issue did come up on more than one occasion. These are all agriculture, farm people, some businessmen, and without exception, everyone of them told me exactly what I'm telling you, we don't particularly like the bill, but on the other hand, how else can you bring industry in when other states are doing it. And I never got scolded or criticized or threatened because I supported the bill. They knew that I supported the bill because it was in the newspaper. So it shows me that the people, at least the majority, or at least those people that I talked...I don't know about the majority, but at least a lot of people in my district that I talked to, even though they think it is a bad policy for states to have to compete with one another to bring industry to their state, they know it is reality and they know if we don't do it, then we're going to be left without the industry and without the means to support the economy of this state. So for that reason, I supported this bill and I expect to continue to support it, and I hope that the rest of you who feel as I do, that it may not be good policy but it's the only possible chance we have to try to strengthen the economic base of Nebraska, and so with that, I am going to continue to support the bill. Thank you very much.

**PRESIDENT ROBAK:** Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Vrtiska also wishes to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature; Rick Wallinger, who is the teacher, and four Odell high school students are here in the north balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. Welcome. Senator Wickersham, your light is next.

**SENATOR WICKERSHAM:** Thank you, Madam President. I will try to be brief. I know that the proponents are eager to get to a vote on this bill. I voted for this bill on General File. I voted for it out of committee. I voted against it on Select File. I am going to vote against it again today. And I am going to vote against it today because we did, on Select File, strip out the cost-benefit analysis language. Whether that would have ever been employed in a meaningful way or whether it was the right