

applies under LB 830, and invest it in those small companies, those entrepreneurs who have ideas, who are here, who are Nebraskans, who have all kinds of ability, initiative and experience, in many cases, but don't have the money to get their ideas off the ground. That's where we ought to be concentrating our efforts in this type of state. We can do it for a lot less money and we can grow our own Microns, if you will, for purposes of having a stable tax base down the road. Those are the kinds of efforts that we ought to be concentrating on. Yeah, it's great to win the Blue Ribbon, I guess, to get the brass ring, if you're able to, through economic development procedures, initiatives, legislation such as 830, to get a big program, but at what cost. And I'm not sure that the cost is worth the final outcome. I would much rather see us have a large number of small businesses, as we do in this state, as exists in every state. The big businesses are, by far and away, the small, small percentage of the employers in this country and especially in this state. I think that where we ought to direct our initiatives is toward those small employers who we can grow here for a lot less money and do that with a stable tax base that encourages them. We can still train their employees. We can still provide incentives but the incentives will have to be a lot less and they can be spread to a greater number of individuals or greater number of businesses than the big bet that we're going to gamble at the...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...hundred dollar window instead of the fifty-two dollar window bets that we could make with the smaller companies. That's where I would like to see us spend our efforts. That's where I think we ought to concentrate. But, right now, LB 830 is the law. It's got a sunset in it. I'm willing to live with that. I don't think we should rehash that issue right now. I think 425 is a separate proposal. I've got amendments to offer to that that will, hopefully, be adopted, that will address some of those things that I just spoke to. But, at this time, even though I agree with Senator Chambers' proposal I'm not going to vote for it but I'm not going to vote against it either.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the body, I don't see Senator...is Senator Withem on the floor?