

on page 1 where it talks about the Legislature finds that in order for state and local economic development programs and activities described in Section 81-1201.09, can you go back then and tell me what that section does, because that's what you referred to in the beginning.

SENATOR ENGEL: Senator Bernard-Stevens, I appreciate your appreciation of my being more astute than I am as far as recalling exactly what different statutes are. We can look that statute up, and I'm sure we can get it to you. You probably know what it is already. If not, you could probably look it up and understand it better than I, but I will be certainly happy to do that if that's your desire.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Well, thank you, and I say that, and I have to be honest with you because it was Senator Witek actually that brought it to my attention, so I want to give her due credit on that. I wouldn't want to take any way her thunder, particularly in the name that she said it as she walked by, but, nonetheless, what that section that you refer to talks about is the section that says we want to get the parts of the state that are in need of economic development, like your northeast part, the southeast part, and what have you, and it would seem to me that if I have a small town, like in my district, whose only restaurant closed because they couldn't meet certain standards or it was just difficult to stay open, a lot of times that is the only meeting place of that community, and it would be very nice for if...for someone to be able to get a grant or a loan for them to open up that restaurant so that the people of the community have a place to go to, so they can have a nice meal, and they can have a cup of coffee, a kind of a meeting place for a community, if you wish. Why would we not want that type of an economic development in some of our poorer, smaller communities?

SENATOR ENGEL: Senator Bernard-Stevens, the purpose of this bill, as you are well aware, is to create jobs for a viable enterprise that will bring in more jobs into the community and produce something that will create a product that can be sold and will bring dollars into that community. Your comparison to a small restaurant, if you lost your restaurant in your small town, it's probably...probably the reason you lost that small restaurant is because it could not support itself in that community. You didn't have enough people in that community to support it. With our bill, if they come up with a viable enterprise where they could create jobs, you could probably