

April 5, 1995

LB 425

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You just give them the money and you hope that it's going to achieve the result that is intended or desired.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So I am...oh, okay. I won't keep asking questions because my time is about to run out. I'll just make some observations and then I'll put my light on again. In some of the other bills to which I have objected this idea of increment financing and all these other gimmicks that flow from it dealt not with the state taking money and turning it over to a company, but saying, for a period of time, you're not going to have to pay these taxes, or you may have some assistance in preparing the site, obtaining the land and so forth. This would be an actual...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...cash payout, and that payout would come from a General Fund appropriation. There is nothing in the way of a fund created by businesses contributing to this, it would be an outright payout with no strings attached to one of these companies employing 100 or more individuals. And I think a company that size should not be given a grant from a fund this small. I think the money is large, based on the kind of thing that's being said up here with all the other things floating around. But when it comes to economic development, \$6 million is not any money. So it should be reserved for those operations small enough to benefit from the relatively small amounts that are going to be available because the entire amount may not do too much to assist a company hiring over 100 employees, unless they are paying them subminimum wage or they're semi serfs and indentured servants.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Kristensen would like to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature this morning, there are 25 junior and senior high school students from Axtell High School. Their teacher is with them. There are 62 senior high students from Minden High School in Minden with their teacher. And six seniors from Wilcox High School in Wilcox, Nebraska with their