

individuals involved in this is important. I think that there needs to be that local oversight. I think the elected officials at the local level need to be involved and through their support and adoption of these agreements, then provide the support of the local communities because I would hate to see for the state to go in and expand into an area where a particular type of business or a particular type of project might not be wanted by that local area. So I think that language that's in line 9 is very important, that that local oversight, local involvement we need to continue, we need to continue to develop that partnership. It exists now in many parts of the state and we need to encourage that so I hope that down the road we don't look at removing that aspect of this amendment. With that I would say that I think the Wickersham amendment...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...goes in the right direction and would encourage its adoption.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Madam Chairman, I'd just like to stand in favor of this particular amendment. The one portion of it especially is a lot of people were worried about whether this could be used for a Micron type situation. That's why we put in here up to 250 employees and any type of Micron type situation is 250 or above, so this would eliminate any of these funds going to any enterprise like that. Thank you. So I do support the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you Senator Engel. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Maurstad a question about some of his comments because I may have missed something.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Maurstad, were you discussing the question I had about the giving of grants to these companies that you'd find mentioned in line 9?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: I think that the grants are mentioned, loans or grants are mentioned in a couple of places, but, yes, I'm