

ones to begin with. And as far as the amount of money, I'm going to tell Senator Maurstad another instance in which I think the money is not large enough. The statement of purpose contained in Senator Engel's amendment is totally misleading and I'm not saying intentionally so. But to say in order for state and local economic development programs and activities described in this section to remain competitive with those of other states, \$6 million is not going to be an inducement for anybody to come from another state to Nebraska or to stay in Nebraska as opposed to going to another state. If a business large enough to even bring up that issue is involved, that business cannot get more than 25 percent of this fund. So one million something dollars, is it \$1,250,000, is that a fourth of it? Or it's something like that, anyway, that much money, that small amount of money is not going to induce another business to come to Nebraska from wherever it is. That small amount of money is not going to be enough to induce a business to stay in Nebraska rather than go some place else. So I'm going to offer an amendment to strike all of that reference to being competitive with other states. That is not what this is about. This program is a new one to make it possible to give some money to businesses. That's what it is. So if the provision in Senator Wickersham's amendment remains a part of the bill, I know it cannot be stripped at this point because it would be an amendment to an amendment, but if that stays in, then I think the whole purpose that was stated for having this bill has been lost. It is not helping smaller businesses. But what I got up to say, really, was that we are getting away from what the original discussion was when Senator Engel brought us a very poorly drafted slush fund bill. It would have been a lot simpler to deal with it as a slush fund because that's what it was designed to be and that's the way the bill was drafted. Give the Governor this money, throw in a few things around the edges to make it appear that there are some guidelines and restrictions when in reality there are none.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But as the discussion progressed those who are helping to draft this legislation began to try to put some substantive changes in the bill which would restrict and guide the purposes for which the money would be spent. And once that was done, we see now that we're not dealing with a slush fund pure and simple, but an economic development bill and there is not enough money in it to do anything. But if you want to make