

little bit of assistance isn't going to make it any better. And the problem I think is going to be this, if you think economic development bills are bad this year, wait until you pass this one and the word gets around throughout the communities. Six million dollars doesn't go anywhere with the kind of groups you're talking about helping here. And little Joe welding shop whose adding two or three people, he's wondering why he doesn't get a little bit of this action, and there are little Joe welding shops by the thousands in this state. And when his neighbor gets a piece of the government action and he doesn't get a piece of the government action and he's competing with his neighbor, what's he going to think? He's either going to be mad or he's going to want some of the money too and \$6 million will become 12 million, and 12 will become 24, and 24 will become 48, and there is lots and lots and lots of money that can go into helping these kinds of people. And this kind of thing, it seems to me, also is going to exacerbate the problem that we're already seeing from time to time of competition between localities within the State of Nebraska. Well, it may not be feasible sometimes for somebody to threaten to move to Kansas if he doesn't get a little money, but maybe he'll move over to the next county or the next city. Maybe it's that kind of business. There are a lot of those around. They can't move out of the state but they can move a little ways. And so now do we get to be using state money in terms of helping localities of maybe competing against other localities for businesses within the state? I'm beginning to think, and maybe I haven't thought through all the different kinds of economic development bills that we've been working with and maybe I haven't paid enough attention to them, but I'm beginning to think that this marks something different from what we've done in the past. This is not to help us vis-a-vis our status or our competitive position with other states because that's not what this bill is about. It says it in the first paragraph, but I don't think that's what this bill is about. And so I think maybe we ought to think real hard about the basic philosophy of this particular bill because it will be back to us if we pass it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Hall.
Senator Chambers

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Hall. Madam President, members of the Legislature, and for Senator Maurstad and Senator Engel, I want you to be aware that what I'm saying is based on the language of the Engel amendment and the language of the