

by statute, this is a requirement. So I want you to think about that.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body, I stand in opposition to the Chambers amendment or the amendment of Chambers simply because it's already been demonstrated here and I think it has been demonstrated throughout the state that there is competition between states for all kinds of businesses, and this gives a one up for Nebraska to be able to talk to some of those businesses about the possibility of locating here. I don't think you can overlook the fact that there is competition, there will remain competition and I think that's, in my opinion, part of the purpose of the bill is to help these communities who are actively seeking some type of economic development in their communities to be able to use these funds for that purpose. And so I see no reason to take out the language that Senator Chambers has indicated he would take out under his amendment. I fully support the bill the way it is and I see no reason to make these kind of changes unless somebody can demonstrate to me that there's really a better need than I have heard up to this point. With that, thank you very much.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Witek, followed by Senators Beutler and Chambers.

SENATOR WITEK: Madam Chairman, members of the Legislature, I sat and listened quietly as this bill has, so to speak, taken on a life of its own over this discussion. And I know some people are saying that it's filling it in or giving it more definition, but when we went through the hearing on 425, and the reason I voted it out of the committee, because we did have some discussion and they were a vote short and I did give it the vote to come out of committee, was because when we discussed this, and Senator Landis is not here, but maybe at some time he can say so and if anybody else who was in the discussion would like to back me up on this, when we discussed 425, what we believed at that time in the committee and listening to the hearing, the purpose was to give the Governor \$3 million a year for if he was making some kind of an effort to bring new business in or to expand businesses that were here and they needed some monies for whatever it would be, for training or... for training purposes or whatever their purpose was, he would be able to reach into this