

fund, so to speak, and say we're willing to help you with whatever it is that you need at this time. And it would be his discretion, his decision and we talked about it would be accountable to the people because it would be a political decision that he would be making at the time. We talked about...Dave Landis I can remember said it's kind of like throwing your wallet down on the table and this is exactly the discussion that we had in the committee hearing. So now we come up on the floor with the bill, and since there was some...some, I guess, discussion early on about this being a "slush fund", I would call it more of a discretionary fund, then they backed away. Senator Engel's new amendment and a lot of these amendments that you're putting in here, each of you putting in here, you're backing away from the purpose of this fund was to be different than what we've already got, but then as I read through Senator Engel's amendment here, he just really kind of intends this to be a \$6 million appropriation to supplement whatever is already going on in the Department of Economic Development, and in my opinion, that kind of a request should go through Appropriations and does go through Appropriations and I was talking to Senator Wehrbein about this. I don't see this as filling in any new need. I see this as supplementing what is already there and kind of going outside of the appropriations process to do so and coming to the full Legislature. And I don't think I'm going to be voting for this on the final vote for it because it has changed from what I thought would be a helpful area, something that we didn't have in the State of Nebraska, something that the Governor could use and know whether that need was there, or if it wasn't there, it wouldn't be used. It wasn't something that had to dole our \$3 million a year for. It was just something that he could use and that it was there, that he didn't have to come to the Legislature or Appropriations and go ahead and ask for that money at that time because it would be more of a timely appropriation from this fund. And those were the kind of reasons that I vote for this bill and brought it out of committee and now you're putting in a lot of the same criteria that we have on the other programs and we even discussed this in committee about not wanting to put these in, not wanting to tie this money down to any kind of lists and reports and all this other stuff. So it's changing completely, and if that's what the majority of people want to do with this \$6 million and do it now instead of going through the appropriations process, well, then that's how you're going to vote, but I will not be voting for this because I think if you want \$6 million for Department of Economic Development for