

specially out further west that we'd be wasting a lot of these attorneys' times, having them drive out for appearances in other counties, makes more sense to have a more centralized location for them. This would simply direct that the commission locate itself in Kearney so that some centralization would occur and they'd be...have closer access to the bulk of the counties that are going to be served. With that, I'd urge the adoption of the amendment and I would yield the balance of the time to Senator Hall.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Hall, you have seven minutes.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, members. The amendment is, contrary to popular belief, not offered tongue in cheek. The issue is one that is constantly dealt with in the Legislature when we create new entities of government, and that's what we're doing right here through LB 646, we're creating a new entity of government. And there was, if you remember on the original copy of the bill when we debated it for the first time on General File there was an amendment offered by Senator Kristensen that stripped out the requirement that the commission be established within the Department of Revenue. That amendment was adopted by the Legislature. We had in the provision, maybe it was in the committee amendments, I can't remember how it was actually structured, but there was a provision in there that said...that we dealt with earlier that said we are not long going to require that they be housed in the Department of Revenue. And I raised the issue of, well, where are we going to house? That was never really quite answered. So the issue was raised through this amendment as to where they ought to be located. And if this is going to be an entity that serves all of the state then why not have it located in a centrally...a central spot within the state? The...I'm sure the University of Nebraska at Kearney will have the type of space necessary, even though that's not spelled out, it would be a logical location for this type of an operation to be housed. Senator Kristensen would, as the author and the father of the commission, would have the ability to keep a close eye, because he would be in close proximity. And if he would prefer a substitute amendment that said Minden, that would also be appropriate as well. But the issue is clearly one in what the amendment does is bring to bear the discussion on the fact that we are creating a new entity of government. Much of the talk so far this session has talked about how we need to not only hear, since the first of the year, but in Washington, how we need to