

and by the way, Senator Janssen was talking about an amendment that I thought was a good one, that would put 50 percent of the aggregate fund aside to go to employers in Nebraska that have 50 or less, because if our goal is to get as many small businesses in Nebraska, the help of training, the type of things they need for expansion and the type of job...type of individual for training that they may need and would like to have, the more we could get out there, the better it would be. And part of the problem in Nebraska has been that we've concentrated, many times, our economic policy on the large elite and we've kind of left dangling out there the...the...those businesses that really are the entire foundation of all the businesses and that being the retailer. So what I would like to propose and what this amendment does is simply say it doesn't change the amount that will be funded. That will be a battle later, but it says that of that which we will fund then that amount will be capped at \$250,000. I think that's a reasonable assumption based upon the fact that I truly think that this figure of the 425 will be lowered. And if the body agrees that this number is going to be lower, then I think they should probably vote for the lowering of this...of the ceiling from 500 to 250 thousand because it would then put the bill in the...in a form that would be more compatible with that...with that reduction.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: So I do believe that that would be a good thing. Senator Wickersham, if you would yield to a question. I don't have that much time.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: But on your...on the E & R amendments now, I'm going to now jump off of my amendment and go to some of the other areas you were discussing about.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Everybody else has, you might as well.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Absolutely, I want to get on the bandwagon here or the economic development train. The 25 percent of the fund will be more than 100 employees. Of those that...of 100 employees or more, that might qualify under that portion, would any of them also be able to qualify,