

September 19, 1994, Dun and Bradstreet electronic business directory, April, 1995. The top one talks about the county business patterns and it's talking about the number of establishments and businesses by employment size in Nebraska. If you look at these figures, you see that a very small percentage of the employment will come from those businesses employing 100 to 249. There were 500 and such...60 such businesses and they accounted for 1.2 percent of the employment in this state. If you deal with businesses employing one to four people, they make up 54.3 percent of the employment positions in the state. As you go across this chart, the larger the number of employees in the business, the smaller total employment is created by those companies. So what we are being asked to do with this bill, at least a portion of it, is to make at least 25 percent of the money available in the area that produces less than 2 percent of the employment opportunities in this state, 25 percent going to an area producing less than 2 percent of the employment opportunities. What needs to be done is to narrow the focus of this bill but not in the way Senator Warner says by taking large chunks of it and putting it in a few places, but by reducing the size of the businesses qualified to get the money...

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** One minute.

**SENATOR CHAMBERS:** ...and reducing the amount of money overall. Even if Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment is adopted, something should be stated since we do not know how much money will be in this fund at any given time once the first appropriation has been made, that this amount will be the maximum whatever it turns out to be, but in no case more than whatever percentage we decide of the fund that would be available to that business. So if \$200,000 turns out to be the amount, there is another threshold that has to be met, based on the amount in the fund, and that amount given to that specific business could not constitute more than a percentage of the money remaining in the fund at that time. But at this point, I do support Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Senator Chambers. Would like to recognize some more guests of the Legislature here if we could. We have under the north balcony, we have Nancy Morfeld, the City Clerk from Stanton and also the daughter of Senator Schellpeper. If you could stand, please. And in the south balcony we have from Blair Arbor Park Middle School, 77 fourth graders, along