

to reduce. And we, as a Legislature, individually, must have the courage to say...

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...the situation has changed, I need to adapt to that situation. On any given day I may have voted yes for this bill, but, given our situation fiscally now, I cannot. We must adapt and adjust to the change. We can't just go on and say, well, I committed three months ago and I know we shouldn't but I'm going to continue to do so. The courage is making the change because you know it's the right thing to do. And the change at this point is to bracket until next year, and maybe Senator Engel will find a way to find those dollars or the fiscal outlook will look better. But we need to take the 6 billion off the table so we can be responsible in our spending as well.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Coordsen, your light is next.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I rise to support the bracket motion. I would have certainly been supportive of a kill motion or would have voted against the advancement of the bill, depending upon what the circumstances would have been, and that has nothing to do with the merits of the bill. I think the previous speakers have spoken fairly thoroughly to what is a typical dilemma; a new program is not the place to be at this stage in the game. None of us have any good realization, I think, or understanding. We have hopes as to what the potential positive impact of 425 might be, but might be's aren't where we're at. We have to make things balance. This is something we can't afford next year. Perhaps we may have a booming economy by the time another nine months rolls by and the revenues of the State of Nebraska might be such that they could support some sort of effort into additional economic development assistance for new and expanding businesses. We're not there now. Senator Beutler alluded to commitments that the Legislature made several sessions past. It's something, whether we like it or not, we're committed to fund. The contracts have been signed with the various production plants and we have to honor them. Where the funds come from may yet be changed at some point in time, and how much may yet be changed at some point in time, but it's an economic development thing that we have had. We have other issues, as