

February 28, 1996 LB 1573

think it's a good idea. But I guess because I wasn't here when LB 775 was passed, and I've heard your discussion on this in the past, and this really bothered me in some areas. But one of the problems that I've had and I'd like to have you give me some of your thoughts. In looking at some of the...some of the material that I've looked at in regard to 775, there seems to be those areas where, and maybe you addressed this, or I guess you did partially, where these haven't been a bad investment, and yet there are those that have been terrible. And I guess in some of the material that I've read, after last year when we discussed Micron, et cetera, I come to the conclusion that too often the answer we get depends on who's providing it. There seemed to be a wide array of how some of these have affected the state's finances and the benefits that have been gained from it. So I guess what I'm saying to you and also to the sponsor of this bill, I hope that we can come up with a defined estimate of exactly what some of these things have done and correct those, in my opinion, correct those that are not in the best interest of the state. I'm a firm believer that somehow because...I'm not a firm believer, I don't think that states ought to get into a contest about trying to attract industry, unfortunately they have, and it puts us in a position if we're not willing to somehow follow up, then we are left sort of...basically, we're left out of the game. But on the other hand, can we afford to give away more than we get back? I think that's where the answer comes at. That's why I'm really interested in this bill, and hopefully that we will, as a body, be able to gather the information that's important, if we want to continue to move ahead in this area, or do we want to say, enough is enough? So I just...the point I'm trying to...I guess my question to you is, is it your belief, with this kind of legislation that we're addressing here will, in fact, bring out those exact answers, not just a lot of guesses by a lot of people who are depending on whose side they're on is going to provide the answer that they...that that individual wants?

SENATOR WESELY: Well, Senator Vrtiska, I know that's my goal. I know that that would be Senator Warner's and Senator Hartnett's goal as well. Because of the debate with Micron, where we had two different models, as you indicated, one saying one thing, another saying another, they had totally different conclusions, this is an attempt to bridge that and come to one model that people feel a comfort level with, that we can finally get the bottom line answer to is this good or not good