

floor before, some of you wish maybe I wouldn't, about you simply cannot have seven decades of no increase in population, have an ever-larger government that costs more, have one of the older populations in the nation that is constantly getting older and expect that they will be able to pay more and more and remain a vibrant dynamic economy here in the center of America. Look what could have been. If you track just our birthrate from the 1890s to the 1980s, and realize that we could have had a population of 2.3 million or more with net migration with a vibrant economy with opportunity of the kind that we're beginning to see reported now.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Time. Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. You know I...I do appreciate the level of debate despite the fact that I disagree with some of the points and arguments Senator Brashear's making. I would like to say that at least we're debating the issue, the perspectives we have, the fundamental questions that are at issue here, and I do appreciate that from Senator Brashear. Let me follow up and indicate to you, first off, the argument that he's made, and I've heard this before about how the magic of LB 775 turned this state around. Well the magic is exactly like any magic with a magician out there, it's all illusion. LB 775 came at a time when we had hit the depths, that's true, in the mid-eighties and earlier before that we had really hit bottom because of the ag crisis. But it turns out that we were already in a recovery period, economically, starting in 1987 when the bill was passed. We were like a wave that was starting to roll in only we didn't know it. So here comes the bill and tax incentives that go along with it, and they rode that wave on in, and it was a wonderful feeling and we all...and in that regard it did have a positive impact, that the net impact of a positive feeling in the state of Nebraska, that's understandable. But overall, when you look at the figures, it just so happens that I think the economy was turning around anyway, the strength of the state was growing, and it just so happens that timing is everything sometimes, and in this case the timing was quite good for LB 775. The latest report on that legislation indicates that, at least this figure is, that 32,067 new jobs have been created in the application, 32,000 jobs. And I'm not sure if that includes all or not. But the total number of employment in the state of Nebraska is 878,869.