

demonstrate our capacity to do things well. And I think it's presumptive and dangerous to assume that if LB 775 hadn't been enacted, everybody would have stayed, everybody would have expanded, everybody would have been just as happy. In my personal experience, which is microscopic by comparison to the totality of the state, people inquire of me about relocating businesses to South Dakota or Wyoming or Texas or Florida because there's no income tax. Or they talk about Iowa where you can obtain direct cash incentives without the contractual responsibility to repay them. We have had businesses relocate to Iowa and to South Dakota and they can be identified. And they've said, because it's a better "incentivization" program or a better business climate. I respectfully suggest that while the Department of Revenue says that 70 percent of these jobs might have stayed anyway, I want to suggest to you, I don't think so. Over that approximate ten-year period, if we hadn't done something, we would have continued the trends that are established by the charts which have been shared with you this afternoon. I urge the defeat of the Wesely amendment and that we get on with LB 1368 and its modification to LB 829. Thank you.

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

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Let me begin by reemphasizing, and I think I mentioned this, if I didn't, I want to clarify. I do appreciate the Union Pacific. I do want to see them retain their headquarters in Nebraska. It is not my intent to try to block any effort to try to retain their presence in our state. They have been a valuable corporate citizen. But, again, in my estimation, the tax incentives we're talking about will not be the defining reason why they stay or leave. I think there are many other reasons that will go into that. And in the equation, perhaps taxes will play some small role, but I think there are many other things that they're looking at. One of the things that I object to and am concerned about is, with 1368, is granted, that Union Pacific is a good corporate citizen, and granted, they pay good wages. And I have great respect for them. But we constantly make efforts to expand our tax breaks. Whatever we start with it's never enough, it always has to be expanded. It's sort of like the gambling issue. Whatever we have it's never enough, we have to always add to it. When somebody like me comes back or anybody else who has a concern about LB 775, or any of these