

April 2, 1996

LB 144, 1189

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Forget it, John. You won't get my Bud Light.

SENATOR LINDSAY: I'd urge the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question before the body is the adoption of the Lindsay amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, on the adoption of the Lindsay amendment, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The amendment is adopted. Mr. Clerk, next item.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment is offered by Senator Wehrbein. Senator, I have a note you wish to withdraw this one.

SPEAKER WITHEM: It is withdrawn. Next item.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Senator Vrtiska would move to amend.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to speak on this and I think Senator Hilgert wants to say a few words, and then I plan to withdraw. As most of you remember, last year we passed LB 144...or I mean LB...yeah, LB 144 which was an idea to expand and help with economic development, particularly in some of the rural areas. And I want to report to you that...that bill has been very successful. There were 57 applications, 12 of which were funded in grants, and I just wanted to tell you that those stretch from Senator Bernard-Stevens' district out west to Senator Jones' district up in the Sandhills, and to some small businesses, micro-loan program in Sarpy County. What I had intended to do was, this year, to come in and talk about expanding this program because of the success that it shows, but after visiting about it and also talking to Senator Maurstad who had last year questioned about this, we decided at that particular time that we would wait at least another year and get the report back on the success of this program, because I think it's important to know how well it might or might not be doing, before we attempt to add any more funding to that. We had some ideas about some other areas that we could expand into. One of