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the Legislature. I fear that a few of the things that Senator Chambers says may come to pass and are coming to pass. We are losing people from the rural areas of this state. Population is shrinking. But this bill is not really directed at agriculture. Senator Wehrbein and Senator Vrtiska have two very good bills that are directed toward the agricultural situation. This bill is really directed towards communities and counties and tries to address the discrepancy between the wages earned in smaller communities and those earned in the metropolitan areas. One of the reasons I brought this bill and one of the reasons why I believe so strongly in it is because I've had actual experience in a situation that would fit this bill, and I must take the liberty of talking about a personal experience to explain why I say this bill will work and will help smaller communities. About 30 years ago, in Sidney, Deere and Company gave our hospital an obsolete warehouse that was three stories high. It was a brick building, it was a sound building, but Deere and Company had no use for it so they donated it to our hospital. It was a building with 60,000 square feet in it and it was a white elephant. We learned that there were two brothers in Chappell looking for additional quarters for their mail order business and we contacted them and, with this building as an incentive, we brought Dick and Jim Cabela to Sidney with their small mail order business, which at that time only had 16 employees--a company that would fit this bill perfectly. Well, Cabela's grew. It is now recognized as one of the world's outstanding outfitters in camping equipment, hunting equipment. It has 5,000 employees, has five locations in Nebraska, and it has four major stores throughout the Midwest. One thousand two hundred of those employees are in Sidney. It has been a very stabilizing source of employment with good jobs, good benefits for our community, for Oshkosh, for Kearney, there's a store in Kearney, there's a facility in North Platte and in Grand Island. It has helped the economy of this state. I have no idea how much state income tax they have paid. I have some idea of the amount of sales tax that they have collected from the Kearney and Sidney store. The Sidney store is recognized as one of the top two or three tourist attractions in the state, with virtually a million customers a year, and that produces a great amount of sales tax for this state. The corporation is profitable. It is a good corporate citizen. I have heard experts from Omaha, where of course all of the experts come from