

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 23, 2000 LB 936

(laughter), say that the benefit package paid to employees is the best benefit package they have seen any corporation in this state provide,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR MATZKE: ...including broad range of disability insurance and health insurance. It's a success story and it's the type...now I'm...I'm not saying that every community in this state is going to generate a Cabela's out of this bill, but what we gave Cabela's was a building. We sold a building for...with 60,000 square feet for a dollar a square foot. That was the incentive program we had, and the Cabela management has said that's one of the things that helped make them profitable in their early years. It was, in fact, an incentive program similar to this type of incentive program. It creates jobs, it creates viability in communities, and I could talk about some of the communities where they are doing business, so I've had personal experience. I know that this type of program works. I've seen it. I've seen the figures. I've seen the benefits to the community. The Cabela's just donated a million...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR MATZKE: ...dollars to our local hospital for its remodeling. This is what we want to do for local communities throughout the state who are suffering economic...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Matzke. Thank you. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members. I think all of us are very much interested in doing what we can to help the economy of the rural part of the state and I am...I am certainly not an exception to that, but I remain opposed to this bill because I don't think it will work. In particular, this program distributes state sales and income tax dollars to high-income groups with little apparent result. Clearly, the hope is that distribution, through trickle-down or some other mechanism, will lead to desirable results, but the analysis by the Fiscal Office suggests that that will not happen. And I urge you to consider this. Maybe LB 775 is not the right