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LB 972

silly that StratCom is not across the street from the Pentagon, and isn't it silly that Kings Bay, Georgia is not next to StratCom, and isn't it silly that the USS Nebraska is not always in port, because there must be some communication breakdown. Now we're only dealing with a potential Armageddon here, but the arguments that, well, the management is going to breakdown if we don't colocate, it really is not a very good argument whatsoever. In fact, some of the folks, some of the arguments that I've heard that there will be a management breakdown if we go to rural Nebraska, things won't work right, you know, are we...don't you feel a little guilty about proposing some tax incentives for people to expand their businesses in rural Nebraska? If it's that bad, why are we doing that? Obviously, I'm being satirical here. There is no reason on earth why Senator Bourne's amendment will create the problems that some people are bringing up. The management argument is just not there, at least it doesn't hold any water whatsoever with this senator. And Senator Bourne is 100 percent right, with today's technology, there is absolutely no reason it needs to be in a certain collocated physical place. He's 100 percent right and I'm no longer neutral on the amendment. I'm going to plan on supporting the Bourne amendment. There has been some...I think good points brought up by Senator Brashear, or was it Brown that talked about the percentage, the one, the guidelines of where to locate the facility. And, frankly, the initial placement of the facility, I mean that could be remedied easily by an amendment on Select File, if that...if that's a real problem with people, as far as having to move it every year that the labor force shifts. I don't think that's a real argument. If it were, that would be easily remedied by amendment, and I think Senator Bourne, if it doesn't already satisfy you, that I think he'd certainly, I think, look at that as an amendment. So as far as the real arguments, I think they can be cleared up, frankly, very easily by amendment, and the other arguments as far as the management and so forth, it really doesn't hold any water in today's day and age. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hilgert. Senator Smith, on the Bourne amendment to the committee amendments to LB 972.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Trying to hash this all through my mind before casting a vote, I've been