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started really to get to me last summer during the budget crisis. And one of the things that we haven't really talked about are hidden costs for these companies to come into Nebraska, beyond what we give them in tax benefits through forgiven taxes and other incentives, and that is the hidden tax that we pay through our Medicaid program for low-income workers, for people who will be having charity care now because we eliminated a lot of those low-income workers and they are now going to be part of your health benefit package that you have to pay for. It will be part of the hospitals' charity care. And as I said last summer, a lot of the cuts that we made were particularly harmful to the rural areas of the state, which rely disproportionately on our public assistance programs, because that's where, disproportionately, the majority of poverty is in the state. So I'm going to be very supportive of the work of the committee on this bill, on these sections, because it's time for Nebraska to come in line with the other states in the nation that have set standards that bring quality, that bring a return for the money, but also bring the kinds of jobs so people do not fall into the number of programs that we have that I sit on the Appropriations Committee every day and worry about and hear about that are also subsidies to these companies because they don't pay a living wage and they don't pay health benefits. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Pederson. Don.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is kind of the time that we have the opportunity to generally review legislative actions in connection with incentives, and I think it's time that we did that. I think that we are indebted to those members of the Legislature that went forward in 1987 with a plan for economic development for the state. I think we're seeing the benefits of that plan. And, Senator Landis, you and your committee, I very much appreciate your bringing this to us so that we have an opportunity to review those incentives, to review the program in general. And I'm certain that there are changes that need to be made that will make it better. But I think we would have to remember that not all change is for the better. So we have to