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FLOOR DEBATE

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Legislature start going back on our contracts, when we enter into business agreements, we as a government, with a private institution, private company, and then decide for whatever reason that we cannot continue with that. And so that is a concern. Certainly, I was in the construction business back before LB 775 was passed. And I was certainly in the city of Omaha when the saying was, whosoever the last one out of the city turn the lights out. And was very concerned, and business was not good, being in the home building business, being in the construction business, being in the development business, and there wasn't any clients out there. There wasn't anybody wanting to do anything. And I hope that we don't get into that situation again. I also feel very strongly that we here in Nebraska need to increase our value-added businesses, in agriculture particularly. If I really had my say...you've heard me say this before...that nothing would go out of this state that isn't already packaged, that isn't already in a box. And it does concern me that...when we later on in this bill start saying we need to "disincentivize" slaughterhouses. I married a girl who lived in south Omaha and was very happy to go down there, and all of her neighbors worked in the packing plants and worked in that industry and were very proud to be part of that industry. But here in this state, we grow a lot of corn, we grow a lot of soybeans. And if we don't have markets for those...and when I'm saying markets, cattle, hogs...the price for the corn and the beans are not what it should be, are not up to its potential. And so if we...as we gradually eliminate our cattle numbers, which is being done, we've dramatically downsized the hog production in this state. And we only have, I think, now three packinghouses, slaughterhouses if you want to call them that, that are even processing those hogs. We're going to see not only hog production go down, you're going to see also the corn and beans production, because the market isn't going to be there. The ethanol plants certainly have increased the products...the corn prices, the soybean prices, where those plants are located. And we need to be very careful when we start tampering with those areas. Our programs that we have here are performance based. In order to take advantage of those incentives, you must produce, you must invest, you must increase employment, you must increase jobs, you must increase your investment. I think that makes sense. Now, we could do away