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LB 608

LB 775 for the rural community. Remember that one of the provisions that was bruited about as an amendment was altering and lowering LB 775 standards to 20 employees. Twenty employees would have the same problem for rural Nebraska that 30 employees has. This starts at 5. I think Senator Louden just made the point that this has thresholds and numbers that fit rural Nebraska. Altering LB 775 and lowering the number of...the amount of investment and lowering the numbers there to \$2 million and to 20 employees would have been more problematical. Over time, I've come to have some confidence in Al Wenstrand and I believe him when he tells me this has the power to "incent." It's a part of the day that I'm thinking that Senator Bromm and I could answer some more questions, we could have some more discussion, but I'm going to guess that we probably needed some time to reflect on this idea. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Hartnett, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam President, members of the body, Senator Bromm or Senator Landis, 82 counties, 82 counties, have they got...do any of those 82 counties have any LB 77 (sic) projects in them right now?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Hartnett, to whom are you addressing your question?

SENATOR HARTNETT: (Laugh) The duo. Senator Landis, I guess, raises his hand he'll...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Landis, would you yield?

SENATOR HARTNETT: ...he'll answer. Yes.

SENATOR LANDIS: As I remember, on the discussion of LB 608 to begin with, Senator Brashear mentioned the number, about 50...it might have been 57. There are roughly 50 counties that have had LB 775 projects, but the more urban the more likely they are to situate there. There are unique counties that have LB 775s, and we've had as many, apparently, as almost 50 other counties of the state have at least one LB 775 project in the last 15 years.