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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 48

foundations across the state because of the Rural Development Commission. There are businesses that are started today, there are businesses that are maintained today that wouldn't be otherwise, because the Rural Development Commission has helped them. I think it's a good project, a good program. I think that we ought to continue it. We're correcting something that I think I made a mistake earlier in this session; we shouldn't have taken them out of statute. I think we ought to put them back in.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Senator Schimek, on your amendment. She waives the opportunity to speak. Senator Baker, on the Schimek amendment to the Chambers amendment. Senator Baker, did you wish to speak? Motion before the body is a floor amendment offered by Senator Schimek, FA1395, to the Chambers amendment, AM2081, to LB 48. Senator Baker.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I am going to reiterate what I said in an earlier speech here. We, and to answer some of Senator Chambers' comments or criticisms, whatnot, this is an LB 775 company, one of them we worked with. The other two we're working with out there are not LB 775 companies. They are rural based. Would we ask them to come back, the one that's building out there? Certainly we would. I'm not involved with the Wal-Mart. That's not my district and I have reservations about what they've done up there. But my point is we have in place private entities that helped us with this out there, and I can mention by name. Nebraska Public Power District has an economic development branch that's outstanding. They have an airplane. We obviously had to fly people around the Midwest. They volunteered the use of an airplane. Their expertised economist worked with us on grain prices. We have the communications industry worked with us. There is a lot of communications that's going to be used at this plant for monitoring equipment and so on back to their home base. Those communications companies have economic development arms which did a tremendous amount of work for us. The University of Nebraska provided figures on corn production and so on. That entity is in place. We tried all these together with the...through the Department of Economic Development worked