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SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. On with discussion of the Brown amendment, FA72. Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I thought I might bring you up to date on...or just fill you in on what the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. We heard the bill, and it was advanced from committee. We heard interesting testimony, primarily in support. And in fact, virtually all of it was in support. And we heard different reasons for the creation of an enterprise zone...or, not an enterprise zone, but the regional economic development zone. And one of the more compelling testimonies we heard was from Dr. Thomas McDonald, from the University Med Center, and his focus was on biotechnology and biomedicine. And we...I personally had a little bit of difficulty understanding how the creation of the zone would impact the Med Center. And by the creation and by definition, if we create the opportunity zone, and in fact link Omaha and Lincoln through that corridor, and if we look further ahead than the next 5 years, we're looking into the next 100 years--and I don't think anyone here would deny that the two cities are growing toward one another--this merely sets the stage for substantive discussion, for evaluation of how can we make this growth, how can we make the pattern happen to the benefit of all Nebraskans? I guess, from my perspective, I'm not included on that zone. My district in Omaha is. But the zone is really about the betterment of Nebraska. This isn't a my constituency should be represented, with due respect to Senator Synowiecki. We heard the same thing about greater Nebraska representation. And I hope the body doesn't get into a dialogue about, well, I think my district should be represented, or my people need to have some kind of say in the creation. I think this is about developing an infrastructure and a strategy for decades to come for the development, the logical development, of Omaha and Lincoln's growth, and how we can economically take advantage of that growth, and what makes sense for all of Nebraska, as opposed to just this particular site. As you will note, the committee did vote the bill out by a vote of 6-1-1. And with that, I haven't had time to see the amendment. Technology has failed us. So I have been talking to the bill. And I would support the bill. Thank you,