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FLOOR DEBATE

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compelling testimony, about some of the activities that they're involved in that are not just economic development, but they're really securing the state. I've been...I've had conversations with people, since the introduction of this bill, about some of the really exciting things that are going on across this state in regional activities, and when we begin to have real incentives. And I don't mean that necessarily as just economic development incentives, but real incentives for regions to work together in areas beyond possibly economic development, but really work together to provide services to the citizens and things like that. And as we move along this process and have incentives for this kind of regional activity, we're going to have to be continually evaluating whether this is a model that works, what is happening in places like in Senator Stuhr's district, where the area along the interstate is doing things; in Senator Smith's district, where they're doing a lot; obviously, Senator Johnson. So this is just, as Senator Beutler said, a skeletal piece that says that in this area, we know...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR BROWN: ...we have the economic reason to move forward. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown and Senator Johnson. Senator Wehrbein, on FA72.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm supportive of this bill and the amendment, which I guess we're on now. I think one of the real values of this is to the fact that we'll have some encouraging...encourage cooperation among the counties. I'd like to ask Senator Brown a question, though, if I may.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Brown, would you yield?

SENATOR BROWN: Yes.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Do you have a rough idea of what the boundaries might be of this, in your mind, from where, let's say, Lincoln east to...?