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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR BROWN: Well, I said Avoca, but I'm not sure that I meant it. (Laugh) No, you could look at...I mean, you could look at a geographic area, you could look at it being, like, ten miles on either side of the interstate and ten miles around the points, the city points on either end. That is something that has been talked about as a possibility. But then you get into communities that might exist just right on the edge of that, and may be growing out around there. So I don't know that...I mean, I think that that's going to be the first order of business for the commission, is defining exactly what they mean for themselves.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you. Well, I just wondered what your idea was, so we had (inaudible) what we're talking about. I support this and I...in some ways it's reluctant, because I'm not enthused about wild...or wildly enthused, I should say, about development down the road. But it's coming, whether you like it or not, in eastern Nebraska. And in the next 50 years, we're not going to recognize where...today we wouldn't recognize where we're going to be 50 years from now at all. But I'm concerned. My county, Cass, probably has the most geography, in terms of acres, of anyone involved in this. And there's just some concern in my county, particularly among county boards, as to the fact that they want to be involved in what evolves here. And so I'm going to listen to this debate carefully. And I may have some more comments, and perhaps even an amendment on Select File, as to whether the representation is accurate. I think we all have to look ahead. And I think one of the things that I haven't heard mentioned here today that came out of that conference is we need to be talking Lincoln-Omaha, Omaha-Lincoln, much as we do with Dallas-Fort Worth, Minneapolis-Saint Paul, the Quad Cities, whatever. If Nebraska is going to develop in this part and have some help from grants or whatever it takes, this kind of concept is important. And I didn't hear you say that, Senator Brown, but you may have, about some of the issues down the road. So I do support it. But obviously, it's going to cover up the farm ground, and probably...and it's inevitable, between Omaha and Lincoln. And so...but I know we have to plan for that, and from that standpoint, I support it.