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your light is next.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Schimek, members of the Legislature, I do not support the bracket motion, and I support the general concept of the bill. And I think I support most all of the provisions of the bill. I did want to share with you a chart that I had asked the Research staff to make up, to try to give some historical perspective on what we've been doing with business incentives over the years, since the late 1980s, when this all started in a more substantial form. And what I asked them to do was to take the General Fund budget each year, and then add to that and bisect...dissect it in a number of ways. But basically, if you look at this sheet of paper that I passed out to you, I'll kind of take it through...take you through it a little bit, because I think it's instructive, in a way. But the fiscal years are on the left-hand side. And in column B, you see the General Fund expenditures for each of those years. And then in columns C through I, I asked them to list all of the different business incentive programs that we have, all of the substantial, larger ones. And down under there, then, each year you can see how much money we spent for each of those programs. In at least one of the programs, you'll see some U's, which means we don't know how much we've spent. So the figures are generally understated somewhat. And then if you look over in column J, all of those previous business incentive columns are added up. So you can see the total business incentive expenditures in each of the various fiscal years. Then what I asked them to do was add Nebraska Department of Economic Development figures, column M, to those business incentive figures. So that if you...if you took all of the business incentive figures and add them to the Department of Economic Development, and then took that amount as a percentage of the total budget, having added into the total budget the revenues that are represented by those programs, so that in column J...I'm sorry, in column N, which I've circled for you, you can begin to see in each fiscal year the percentage of the total budget that is represented by business incentives and expenditures in the Department of Economic Development. And you can see that over the years, as a percentage, it peaked in 1995-96, which were bust times...or boom times, that is, in economic development, and then tended to drop off in more recent