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see if we can focus even more than we're doing. In some ways, this may be a broadside, but I think it is necessary as we move forward. And as we see some of the economic development issues come forward, we'll be able to perhaps focus even more on some areas that hopefully will come forward as this bill starts to take effect, and see if there's some areas that should be emphasized. So I oppose the bracket motion and I urge you to consider this moving forward, because I do think it is...has broad enough appeal that it is going to help all parts of Nebraska, which is what some of the criticisms have been in the past. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion. Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. Well, I also rise up in opposition to the bracket motion. I've always been supportive of the business incentives and yesterday, I don't remember if it was the Lincoln or the Omaha paper, but there was a great article in the paper, and maybe that's been addressed already, but the article went on to tell in the years since we've had the LB 775 incentives how Nebraska has been ahead of the rest of the nation in job creation. And I think we need to continue to move in that direction. We need to keep up with the rest of the nation. We've, as been stated earlier, we've been falling behind. But so often, back in the district I represent, many of my constituents feel that it's just incentives for big business, it only affects Omaha and Lincoln and it isn't helping rural Nebraska. And I always have to defend the incentives and I have to tell them that we have many programs in rural or outstate Nebraska that we depend on Omaha and Lincoln being strong. We very much depend on them being strong and we have to look after the whole state. I can remember last year when there was a rally on the north steps of the Capitol and I read in the paper some of the comments that were made that day, and Superintendent Mackiel from Omaha was against LB 775, and it rather upset me. I even called the superintendent to tell him that I felt we would have far less money for state aid to schools if we got rid of LB 775, because