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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 500

in their cars to go shopping, going there so they can walk through and see exhibits of animals stuffed, fishermen with models in their latest outfits. And then driving a day and a half to another Cabela's so they can get out and watch the whole thing over again. It is a phenomenon. It's a phenomenon that other states are paying for and cashing in on, big time. The state of Texas recently gave \$80 million for two Cabela's stores in Texas. West Virginia recently gave \$35 million for a Cabela's store in West Virginia. Where these operations have gone it's because states lured them to come, and states want them to come because ultimately they move business, add commerce, bring jobs and the like, and that's what LB 500 is all about. Minimum return on your investment: 150 jobs and \$20 million of investment. That's the minimum, because these don't wind up being the minimum. Jim Jensen will tell you about visiting Kansas City, driving through the place, where Kansas reached out and used the tool that I'm going to describe today to bring Cabela's in, brought in a water theme park, brought in a racetrack, brought in Nebraska Furniture Mart--Nebraska Furniture Mart, who chose to expand in Kansas City and use this tool. And now, it's not 150 jobs; it is a vast sea and hotbed of commercial activity. Might this spring up without this assistance? Well, it did in western Nebraska when it began, didn't it, although Cabela's is an LB 775 user. But at this point, states are competing for this kind of tourist destination retail. And this is a change, because we don't normally do retail in Nebraska. It's not part of LB 775. It's not part of our normal operations. Our theory has been, you know what, you won't drive 300 miles for groceries so we don't need to incent retail. And guess what? People will drive 300 miles for Cabela's. They will drive 300 miles, which means that they can put this anywhere they want to along I-80 and capture that place, and there are plenty of states who want them, because their largest growth has been outside this state. By the way, it doesn't have to be Cabela's; it can be the other alpha male in the sports network--it could be Bass. Bass is now building in Mall of America. Do you know what Iowa gave Bass Company for going there? Over \$20 million to come to Iowa to do retail work, because at a certain size and magnitude, they are their own draw. My wife is now in a car with her sister, driving to Minnesota. They're going to see Bruce Springsteen and they're