

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 11, 2005

LB 425

SENATOR ENGEL: I'll have to look at the statute. And I will do that, have someone look for it right now. But I do not believe they can. I don't know why they'd even do that. This is a...this is to entice more businesses in the state of Nebraska, not a business. Because this is across the whole state. This is for rural and urban. It's not just for Omaha or Lincoln or in between these two communities, so.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Well, I understand. But I also know that there have been some very enticing industries that we've wanted to bring into the state. And if that was a big enough company, I just want to know what the parameters of the program is. And I think that's where our discomfort is, that we don't have the rules and regs here in front of us. When you introduced your bill, we knew what was going to be in statute. We're not establishing any statute here, so we don't know what parameters there will be. And in fact, I know that the Workforce Investment Act, which flows through the Department of Labor, also has training dollars. I don't even know how much comes back through the federal government this year. Maybe Senator Pederson will have those figures. And I'll give him some time when I finish. But I know that we have training dollars that flow through that program. And some of them are federal, some of them are ours. And that's a sizeable chunk of change to train people. We do have a program here which I wasn't aware of, and so I don't know the parameters. So if Senator Pederson has the answers, I'd be happy to allow him to respond.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Pederson, would you respond?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yes, I'd be glad to. If you're talking about the overall concept of what this job training is to do, it is in the statute, in 81-1203. And it says they have to go through the criteria, which is, a business applying for the job must submit a business plan. And the plan must include the number of jobs to be created, the nature of the business, and what I referred to a little earlier. All those details, when I said what is to be in a custom business plan, it's those items. And that's in our statute already. So the direction is not, what do you think; it's statutory.