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LB 425

SENATOR ENGEL: Well, I'll tell you,...no.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...as a bill with priority status?

SENATOR ENGEL: I have not withdrawn the bill, but when we got to studying the bill, what's already in existence, we felt it was just...this is redundant. We already had something there to take care of the situation, so was no sense having...

SENATOR THOMPSON: So...okay. So I'm just kind of keying off. So, instead of what you decided, you introduced the bill to create the institute that offers the programs by...to create this training institute with \$25 million for custom job training assistance through these various means. So you don't believe in the institute concept anymore or...

SENATOR ENGEL: Well, there's nothing wrong with the institute concept, but they've already got it set up in statute to where they can actually do these through existing institutions and so forth actually. So this looks like it's just more duplication than anything else. That...

SENATOR THOMPSON: But did someone testify to that at the hearing?

SENATOR ENGEL: Nobody testified to that. That came about as we were preparing for General File, that that come up and people did some research and come up with what we already had on the books. And that should have been done, I'll have to admit, that should have been done prior to this bill ever being introduced, but it was not, so.

SENATOR THOMPSON: And, you know, I'm just having questions as to why we're doing it. And things are kind of flying here kind of quickly for me, and I know that maybe to some it's the eleventh hour and some that it isn't. But since I had so much, I've been working on other things, I just kind of came to my focus today that we're using this old statute from the nineties, you know, that was written in 1994, which is a ways back, for a different era, a different time. Do you have any concerns? I went to a...before the session, the Omaha Chamber of Commerce