

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

May 17, 2005

LB 312

what we have on the table better. Clearer definitions, better language to achieve it, a revamping of the microenterprise tax credit to make sure that we can target and use that tool effectively. And I support the Connealy amendment. I also want to acknowledge that we are here because Senator Connealy chose this as his priority bill. And but for that decision, we would not have the opportunity to do this at this critical time. I want to thank him for that critical role in the success of LB 312.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. On with discussion of the Connealy amendment. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Connealy, a question, if I might.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Connealy, would you respond?

SENATOR CONNEALY: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: On page 6 of your amendment, if you would take a look at page 6, starting with subsection (b) at the top. And this section is with regard to what you've now renamed the Nebraska Advantage Rural Development Act, right?

SENATOR CONNEALY: Yes, it's the prior act of LB 608.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And just explain briefly again how you qualify to obtain money under this particular section.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Counties under 25,000, it's five jobs; counties under...and \$50,000...\$250,000 of investment. And counties under 15,000, which used to be 10,000, is two jobs and \$125,000 investment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Then the language that I'm most interested in says...and I assume this is one of the qualifications, that if you're getting money under this act, you have to be paying a minimum qualifying wage of \$8.25 an hour to the new equivalent Nebraska employees.

SENATOR CONNEALY: That's correct.