

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Madam President, members. I was keeping my mouth shut and just sitting here and going along listening to my good friends Senator Hall and Senator Chambers discuss that, and some of my other colleagues talking about the bill, and I had to get up and talk because I was just getting really amused. There is...I have heard, I don't know how many times, people say I am amazed at how fast this bill is going along, and I looked at the clock and it is 7:45 on our third day of handling it, and it doesn't seem to me that it is flying along real quickly. Maybe I am reading something wrong, that maybe this is quick for a bill, but I have seen us handle entire agendas of bills in under ten minutes, and this one doesn't look particularly greased. And then we start looking at I guess the argument that was coming up and I have to disagree with Senator Hall that the language that he is referring to is unneeded because...and, second, whether it is true. We can live in a fantasy world, folks, but our population has been stagnant for as long as probably I've been born, as long as I have been alive, I should say, that our population hasn't grown. Now you look at this and it says our population hasn't grown and we may get offended by that but it is true. We may not like it but it is true. Senator Hall says that this is terrible for us to talk about Nebraska not having...not having enough in terms of quality jobs for citizens. I will bet you if you go back to your districts, and you ask, and you say, hey, are you happy with all those telemarketing jobs paying 4.50 an hour, are you happy with your job over at Burger King with no benefits? And I suspect they are going to say, no, I would like to see some more quality jobs. That is what this says. This says we want to see some more quality jobs. And we are not saying Nebraska businesses are bad. We are not saying anything like that. In the next paragraph, which Senator Hall mentioned also, and I think there is an amendment up on it, that talks about companies undertaking major expansions and relocations do so only upon evaluating competitive strengths and weaknesses. They do. Nebraska companies do the same thing also. You don't have to be based in Idaho to evaluate relative strengths and weaknesses in companies. You don't have to be based in Germany to evaluate relative strengths and weaknesses of the economic climate in the state. Nebraska companies do it, and Nebraska companies don't stay here sometimes, and Nebraska companies plan major expansions in St. Louis, as we have seen recently, and small Nebraska businesses move a mile and a half across the river to Iowa because they get great economic benefits. The fact is these findings, while we may not like them, are true. We don't