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FLOOR DEBATE

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between rural and urban Nebraska, it just says; the Legislature is committed to a sound balance. What does that mean? Does it mean that the same thing that happens in the rural areas, where there are few people, must be brought up to what happens in urban areas where there are a lot of people? Does it mean that the rural people should start paying more taxes to carry more of the load than they are carrying under the present system, which takes a bulk of the money from the urban areas to subsidize the rural areas, is that what it means? There is something in this bill that gives a directive. Starting in line 5; the Legislature directs the Governor and the heads of all state agencies to establish and maintain departmental policies and procedures, giving priority to the location of new offices and other facilities in rural areas; I don't know what these other facilities are. And farther down in the bill they talk about relocating jobs. So you take them from one area and relocate them to the urban areas. So what does that mean? In north Omaha where there are many impoverished people, primarily African American, what few state jobs are there can be taken from there and put in the rural areas? What few state jobs may be in southeast Omaha, known as South Omaha, will be taken and put into rural areas? Is that what this is all about? If this bill were to substitute African American for rural, everybody in this Chamber would be paying attention because there's racism here. And you know what they'd be saying? By God, we won't have none of them there...what do they call them...quotas. We ain't going to vote for no quotas here. By God, we're not supposed to be creating these special groups and protecting them. Why you want to give these African American's quotas? You want to guarantee these Jews so many jobs? But it doesn't say "Jew", it doesn't say "African American", it does not say "Latino", it doesn't say "Native American", it says rural which means white. White people have always had affirmative action, always. If you look at police departments and fire departments, you can see the nepotism, the same names, same last names. They're given these jobs. Then when we talk about doing something to correct the generations of discrimination, white people jump up right away and say, and that's racism in reverse. That is the craziest, most stupid thing I've heard. And this bill is not designed by those who introduced it to do anything nefarious. But that is the result, and I'm going to oppose it