

aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of Senator Landis's amendment to the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Now we are back to...the amendment to the committee amendments is adopted. Now we are back to Senator DeCamp, yes, back to the committee amendments.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, I would like to discuss with the entire body the whole concept of economic development and the governorship and the direction we are taking. I am not necessarily agreeing or disagreeing with the amendment but I do think it is important you understand the direction we are taking because I think it is going to set a precedent, and let me explain it this way. The Governor of the State of Nebraska, no matter who it is, by virtue of our Constitution and our laws and the way we have set things up has very, very little power to actually implement any program he or she may ever come up with, and that reason for that is because almost everything, almost everything is independent of the Governor. Now that is a fact of life and it may be the way we want to keep it and it may be the way we want to develop it in the future, but as a practical matter, other than the rhetoric, a Governor is very much like the King of England in this state. They can talk and they can cut ribbons, but in terms of power, they don't have a lot. Now we would agree, I think, that economic development is a very important thing that this state is going to have to deal with in the future, and the question then becomes, in the one area, the one area among very few where power to the Governor still exists, economic development, through the control of the appointments there, do we want to continue that direction of keeping the Governor as a figurehead or do we want that Governor of the future to actually have real power. We have a bill before us, I think Senator Landis is promoting it, supporting it, and it has to do with giving the Governor more power, more control by appointing I think the Executive Secretary, in other words, the effective controlling agent of a number of these commissions. This bill goes in the exact opposite direction and it takes the Governor out of the economic development process for all practical purposes. The Governor is involved, just like the Legislature is, in the original implementation of the director, but then he is taken out and it is turned over, it is turned over to a