

principle. That principle was how much money can we get from government...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR DECAMP: ...for this or that particular program, that is all it was. Now the bill has all the makings and all the potential to redo and restructure the whole economic development system. The only thing is it will do it as 40 other states have found it necessary to do it who are succeeding in economic development and that way is by ultimately holding somebody accountable, instead of turning it over, as I say, to a private club, and I think you know that. Do what is right on the issue. Business has no reason to gripe about this particular amendment. They ought to be happy about the balance of the bill because it does offer the potential to start a new direction on economic development and an accountable one.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Far be it from me to try to match the eloquence of my young friend from Neligh, Nebraska. I believe that is where he is from.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Gentlemen, gentlemen.

SENATOR DECAMP: I didn't take any cheap shots at him.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, (interruption), the point I want to make is this. Senator DeCamp says, you know, notwithstanding the fact, notwithstanding the fact that we have had directors appointed by Governors since the department was created, the whole purpose of the failure was not because we did not have good directors. It was because they were disoriented. They were trying to get federal funds. Well, I am not going to ask a question because Senator DeCamp will use all of my time, but the point is this, was there any, and I ask you to answer this question to yourselves, was there anything in the statute, was there anything in the rules and regulations, was there anything in the directives from the Department of Economic Development or the Governor that did not allow the Director to go to business, that did not allow the Director to work with the business community to bring additional business to this state? I say, no. Was there anything at all in all the