

figures and something that we need to look at. Now one of the things people keep talking about is it's too early; we shouldn't be doing this; we got to wait and see what happens nationally. Well, one of the things they're looking at nationally is what other states are doing and if we continue to hold back on trying to address this problem we will miss the opportunity to show that local control can work. One of the things I think is if we don't seize the initiative and deal with the issue that the national solution that we might have will not be one that allows states flexibility, will not allow local communities to determine their own future. I think our destiny is best dealt with at the local level and allowing communities to have some power to determine their planning, to determine their future, to determine where they want to go is a sensible thing, but should we fail to do this, should other states fail to act then obviously at the federal level more and more push will come for a national plan that will have a single payer and will not allow for the flexibility I think we need. So I see this...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR WESELY: ...helping to deal with the national initiatives to maintain local control.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Before we proceed, I would like to call the senators' attention to the south balcony. Special guests today of Senator Janssen are members of the Up and Coming Extension Club in Scribner, Nebraska. Would you please rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chamber. Thank you. And seated under the south balcony is another special guest of Senator Janssen. He is Joel Jelken of Fremont. Would you please rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chamber. Thank you. Senator Janssen, you're next, followed by Senator Byars.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Madam Chair and members, I rise just to make a few comments on this piece of legislation. It seems as though the regional boards that will be governing this or making comments to the department about this, it is...the cost is 8,500 dollars for milage and related expenses for the boards, but it's just another board. You know, we keep creating all these boards, which I'm...I'm sure that it's fine to have a local board govern these things, but, by golly, all the boards we keep making, pretty soon we're going to run out of people to put on boards and 8,000 dollars is still 8,000 dollars. It's needed