

about. We've spent quite a bit of time on this floor in the past week talking about an ethics bill and the need for an open process and the perception of the people in the State of Nebraska, as far as what government is, the forms we need to fill out, and the things we need to do, to show what it is we're doing. I can't think of what we have done in recent years that will allow more to change the perspective, nor more open up the process of what it is that we're doing here than video conferencing and the fact that we are now bringing in more and more people across the state, looking at what it is that we're doing and be able to have what I would consider an even more personal contact. We're beginning to be able to enable people to sit in their living rooms and tune into this session and to see how we operate. We are having...we are going to be able to and are able to, at different sites throughout the state people will congregate that will have direct testimony, will be able to carry on individual conversations with their legislators, and they have then...or they will be able to overcome many obstacles that now does not entitle them to do that, areas of travel, their time and the expense that has prohibited people from around the state to participate in this process. This has come about because of one main thing, and that's a public-private partnership, because you have private business here in the Nebraska Cable Operations Association and all those members that have come forward and have contributed with equipment, their time and their planning to be able to offer this kind of system in the state. I think this shows what a lot of people perceive as the bureaucracy that is unfriendly to people in the State of Nebraska, they can't get any results, is that doesn't necessarily happen. And to mention a few of those are Harland Johnson, or Bill Miller, or Jack MacBride, and there are many, many more, but these are people that are...the perception again is that's the bureaucracy, they don't respond to our needs, to show that that is not true, these people have responded to our needs. Last but not least it required leadership in the Legislature, and Senator Hall, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, I would thank you over and over again for your leadership and the things that you're not only doing now, but the things that you're going to do in the future that will create greater access and more participation, and I think will create better government in the State of Nebraska, and for that reason I support LR 503.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Senator Wesely.