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been settled, 600 that were. The actual disposition and validity of those 400 unsettled claims is unknown. The state is going to be asked to do this collecting for other states, and we are going to put in the Department of Labor who has done a magnificent job with unemployment compensation another pursuit with certain entranances to business, with certain requirements, with additional storage of forms totally, it is inoperable. Senator Chambers says that small claims courts would be of service in this area and most certainly they would. It is interesting that we would now make it possible for the state to sue on behalf of an employee and the employer can darn well go find someplace and hire an attorney and win, loose or draw, he is stuck with it. This is a very bad piece of legislation. It accomplishes almost nothing. The labor leaders who testified indicated that they do a great deal of this themselves and I think that we would be encumbering not only the employer but the statutes of Nebraska by adopting this. I would suggest that we would not raise it from committee.

SPEAKER: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. I notice that we have 400 unsettled claims in some 3½ years. To keep this in perspective, I would like to know how many employer-employee relationships we have had in 3½ years in the State of Nebraska. I suppose that it would be several million, I don't really know, I don't know if anybody would know this, but in keeping it in perspective it looks like we are dealing with an awful small percentage here. Secondly, I think that we are making farmers employers under the labor rules. Maybe that is what we want to do. It has been brought out that we do have remedy now in the courts either in the small claim courts or if it is in a larger amount to go ahead and get an attorney and go to bat. Fourthly it makes the Labor Commissioner, the Judge and Jury and I think that we ought to really think about that one a little bit. In view of this complicated bill I certainly don't think thaththis is the time or place to quickly pass some legislature of this magnitude without a great deal of thought. Thank you.

SPEAKER: Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I'm not sure that I understand the comments of Senator Murphy or Senator Nichol. Reading through this bill I don't see what the great burden it places upon employer, it would simply provide a procedure when there is a dispute as to the wage and he potentially owes a wage to his employee that he is unwilling to pay for a hearing before the commissioners is the way that I understand the bill. Is there some big cumbersome procedure that the employers of this state have to undergo prior to that dispute arising, I don't find it in the bill. I think that basically the bill says that an employer should pay his employee the wage that he is entitled to, and if he doesn't, the person should have some place to go to get his grievance heard. Currently, there is no place to go other than the courts and very often in small claims that would not be the most efficient way to handle these things. I think that the bill has merit and I don't