

SENATOR KEYES: Now, do we have any records to show what percent of the people who are on this compensation, what percent of them are at the top and what percent are at the bottom? I think that you should have it some place and the variances in between.

SENATOR BRENNAN: A new maximum, 82% of the workers would receive at least 66 2/3 of their wages. About 82% with the maximum at \$150.

SENATOR KEYES: In other words, then, anybody making \$125 would be at the bottom of the list?

SENATOR BRENNAN: They wouldn't collect the maximum, no.

SENATOR KEYES: They wouldn't collect the maximum, they would be collecting the bottom which is...how many dollars is that?

SENATOR BRENNAN: The bottom?

SENATOR KEYES: Yes.

SENATOR BRENNAN: I attempted to put a higher bottom line on it. Senator Kelly, is it \$50, \$49 now?

SENATOR KEYES: \$49.

SENATOR BRENNAN: \$49.

SENATOR KEYES: The biggest percentage of the people of the State of Nebraska who are on this compensation will be drawing between \$49 and \$100, and when you come to that group that is going to be drawing \$100 to \$150 out of this fund, you find that you have a very select few and they will be the ones who are probably in the working trades, who do not work everyday of the year, who receive their salary because of the fact, the money that they get, because of the fact that they do not work all the time by nature of their job. And to say that a man who is during the working season of the year is suddenly injured on the job and to say that he would not be able to draw enough to compensate for the months and the days and the weeks that he is not working the rest of the year, certainly \$150 is not out of line.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, please understand where we are with LB 275. It is a workmen's compensation bill. It has absolutely nothing to do with unemployment. It has absolutely nothing to do with taxes. This is an insurance program written into the statutes of the State of Nebraska whereby the workers of Nebraska, should they be injured, they will be compensated by an insurance company under the form of the Nebraska statutes. A worker that is now injured in the State of Nebraska under workmen's compensation receives two-thirds of his wages at the time of the accident up to a maximum of \$100. I have always been of the opinion that this is very discriminatory against "the skilled workers in Nebraska, the lead men, the foremen and the supervisors", and in my opinion without any detraction from the so-called