

he does a lot of wiring in homes and new buildings and that he probably hires part time help and they draw unemployment and his experience is probably in the negative balance and maybe that is why he was told that his rates would go up.

SENATOR STONEY: Thank you Senator Maresh. Ladies and gentlemen in the few seconds that I have left, again I have expressed some concerns and with the questioning of Senator Maresh I still do not feel totally comfortably with the new formula that we are imposing at the present time. I think we should give very careful consideration to that before we make a decision to further consider this proposal in its present form. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask if Senator Maresh would yield to a question or two.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: I don't have any quams about the ten dollar a week raise. Certainly I think that would be justified. But, I am concerned with the seasonal employer. I think the second largest industry in Nebraska is construction. Now as you and the rest of us all know, your contribution rate is a part of your payroll. Construction workers are making very high scale, particularly if they are in a union. So the contractors and the construction industry is going to have a high pay roll because they are paying anywhere from eight, nine, ten up to fifteen dollars an hour for some of their help. Because their business is seasonal they are forced to lay people off. To me we are penalizing an industry because they are incapable of working year around. Not only the construction industry but look at your lawn and garden and tree trimmers, they are kind of seasonal and I feel like we are punishing them for laying people off when they really have no control whatsoever over the weather. When you consider that their payroll is so very very high and then you are going to raise the rate even higher we are talking about putting not just small contractors buy maybe even larger contractors out of business. It is my thinking that if you are getting paid fifteen, sixteen dollars an hour maybe they should put a longer waiting period on them or something. I'm really concerned about just putting