

again, I want to emphasize I keep seeing the Governor talking about LB 270 and how she's tried to do something for the smaller businesses, but LB 270 is nothing more than an expansion of a bill passed before she was ever Governor, and it was a bill introduced by Senator Chizek far before we ever even talked about tax credits or tax incentives or LB 775. And I'd also emphasize, as we have different publications put out about these two acts, that the wrong reference is constantly made to the Employment Expansion Investment Act as LB 270. That act is LB 1124, and ought to be recognized as such. Now we have LB 335, again trying to expand from this time from \$1,000 to \$1,500, and reducing the investment requirement from \$100,000 to \$75,000. Now, on top of this the back chart I've got, talks about if you're implying from what I'm saying is that we're taking an increase in the credits, a tremendous amount, tenfold increase in the years that we've had this, yes, I'm trying to point out how big an increase it is. But compared to what 775 does, this is minuscule. The \$1,500 job tax credit, for instance, compares to a \$10,000 job credit, or excuse me, investment credit under LB 775, quite a difference. For quite some time then we went with ten times as much benefit, under 775, as LB 270 and LB 1124 provided. So, we are in a situation where we've gone through and started down this road and I feel somewhat responsible for it. That's why I've been so concerned. So I'll start it back about seven years ago. I pushed, and I pushed hard to have tax credits for job creation, pushed hard because I thought we needed the jobs. If you remember, in the early eighties we were having a tremendous problem, and we have had a tremendous problem until just recently. I thought one way to help was to provide tax credits, and I was one of those early believers. I still believe tax credits have a role to play. But I also believe you need to target them, have accountability and make sure you know what you're doing with them, something I've become much more familiar with over time.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, please. (Gavel.) One minute, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. So, because of that deep concern about where this has all ended up, I feel a great responsibility to try and keep hammering away at this issue. I don't have any illusions about the situation, although Senator Johnson and I introduced a similar proposal last year and came, again, two votes short. I've got this record of being about two votes short on a lot of things. But we almost got