

they won't realize the generosity of this body and the business community in giving them that \$10. So I think we must write a separate check every time they get their check to remind them of how generous we were to give them the extra \$10. I think it's...those of us who would be up for reelection, it would be just a constant reminder that what we've done for those folks, here's your 10 bucks again, folks. But you're helping me out in my election because I've got a lot of working class people, a lot of blue collar people down in my district. I support Senator McFarland's amendment. It's less fair than his original amendment, but it's much, much more fair than a measly \$10 per week. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator McFarland, followed by Senator Haberman.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: I'd just call the question, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator McFarland moves the previous question. Do I see five hands? I do. Shall debate now close? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate does cease. Senator McFarland, would you care to close?

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have discussed this yesterday and a lot of the issues were discussed and it is hard not to be emotional and become angry about this issue and, believe me, I have restrained myself from becoming angry and try to deal with it on a reasonable and restrained type of manner. Once again, I think the committee people who ardently oppose any increase to workers' comp benefits try to confuse the issue and talk about these wages not being subject to social security tax and so on, my understanding that that, in reality, that's the case in most of the states. If I wanted to try and confuse the issue, I could tell you that there are other states who base their workers' comp maximum weekly benefits on the average weekly benefit of the entire state and give 100 percent. We only give...or that they give 100 percent of what the employee's weekly salary is. There are many states that do that. I think Iowa gives 200 percent of what the person's weekly benefit is. But the majority give two-thirds, like we do here in Nebraska, and likewise, the majority, as my understanding is, do not