

local businesses that are incurring these costs are also the ones that benefit from these increased payments to these unemployed workers because the money, the money, folks, is spent, it is spent in town, it is spent at the local businesses and every nickel and dime of it is spent. You're not looking at buying a second residence. You're not looking at buying the luxuries. You are buying the basic necessities and I can guarantee you and it's been a while since I've been unemployed, on unemployment, but when I was, I guarantee you I spent every last penny and I spent it in town and my unemployment was contributed by a large corporation and it benefitted the small businesses in the small towns of my district. So it is not like it's a strict cost to these businesses that they can't overcome. They get to write it off on their federal taxes and they do see the money coming back through their businesses in direct spending from the people that are on unemployment. So it is not that onerous on business and I think it is deserved, long overdue and justified for the people on unemployment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Crosby, followed by Senators Korshoj and Coordsen.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I just have some questions and maybe Senator Morrissey could answer for me, or Senator Lindsay.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lindsay, would you respond.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Yes.

SENATOR CROSBY: Sort of in general questions about the way the unemployment compensation works because I want to be sure I understand some information that I have. One of the things I have, informational things, is that Nebraska's average weekly wage is approximately \$340, so 12 weeks is what you consider a quarter, right?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thirteen weeks I believe.

SENATOR CROSBY: Oh, 13, okay, so that adds one more. So that would be about \$4,400 for the 13 weeks if you were getting the 340. I know that's an average figure doesn't...but the \$134 would be for that top, \$340, right? I mean you have to be making at least, I mean, not everybody gets \$134 a week, that is the top, right, the maximum?