SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any other discussion on the Lindsay amendment to the committee amendments? Seeing none, Senator Lindsay, would you care to close?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. President, I do have to respond I guess to a couple of things. First of all, Senator Korshoj mentioned something about having been approached by I think the AFL-CIO about what to...what kind of an increase it would accept and I should indicate that this particular amendment was brought by the sponsors of the amendment and not by the AFL-CIO, certainly not by the Chamber of Commerce, and there is no agreement between business and labor on this. I guess I've always wondered whether we should even be doing it on the basis of what business and labor tend to agree to or not agree to. If you look at it, I would bet that a lot of the unemployed workers aren't even members of unions and may not be represented by the AFL-CIO so I don't think who is backing it is really an issue. I think what it comes down to the issue is, are we paying what we should be paying to our unemployed workers? We've heard some comparisons with other states and as Senator Coordsen mentioned that we've got other states shoot for 50 percent, ours hits, I think he said 52 or 55 percent. If you're making exactly the maximum benefits amount then, yes, that is true, however, as Senator Crosby pointed out, $340 is the average weekly wage and if you're making the average weekly wage, your unemployment will be 39.4 percent of what your wages are. Most people don't, or most people are above that maximum and that is where we come in so low and I don't know what the numbers are. I think last year we were at 46 or 47. I would guess that we're no higher than that since we haven't raised it, so as Senator Hall pointed out, we've got a lot of exceptions so our comparisons really can't be made to other states because we're just not anywhere near. The issue...I would hope there is not a big question about whether it should be increased just to keep pace with inflation. I would hope we're not going to vote for a decrease in unemployment, which is what we're doing. We're going to say we're going to allow, in real dollars, unemployment to continue to decrease. Sure, it's a cost of doing business. I guess maybe I'm not reading it correctly, but I've been reading from...that business is booming, that it's a good state to do business in and that if we're saying there is a recession coming, I think there is some people that ought to hear about that because we've been doing so much to help business I think maybe we ought to...my thought is, and I guess I tend to agree