

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Morrissey, please.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, I will rise in support of Senator Hall's amendment. It's a good example of what we're doing here. We're creating this legislation on the floor step by step, unsure of what we're doing, unsure if we're proceeding in a proper manner, just patchworking this whole issue together. I would urge you all to support the amendment and I would urge everyone else to pull their amendments until we get to the amendment, gets to the heart of the matter, the amendment that says we will strike all language referring to drug testing and then we pass a small increase in unemployment benefits, a very small increase that we all started out with, that we decided was needed until we started carrying all the excess baggage. I would urge you to support this amendment. I would urge the other members to withdraw their amendments and we can get on to acting on the amendment to strike all drug testing language from this bill and get back to what we were supposed to be doing about seven or eight hours ago when we started on this bill a couple weeks back. It's really taken a lot of time, really dragged down the process and we have simply gone about a patchwork attempt to address problems of the business community without really looking at the long term effects and the proper way to approach the problem. I would urge you to support this amendment and then get on with the business of defeating the rest of the amendments and supporting the amendment to remove all drug testing language from this bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hall, please, followed by Senator Abboud.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President, I will just wait and close on the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall...Senator Abboud, did you wish to speak? Okay. Senator Hall would you like to close? Getting your exercise too.

SENATOR HALL: That's quite all right. Mr. President and members, the amendment is a very simple one and I don't think it in any way impugns Senator Coordsen's amendment. All we do is take the Commissioner of Labor out of a role that they are not familiar with, one that they should not function in and there is no reason to put them in that situation. Senator Coordsen