

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...who has a geographic advantage over this individual as it relates to wage scales. And that's really what this amounts to. If you think about, you're hurting rural Nebraska, small-town Nebraska, as it relates to these kinds of proposals, because when there is less money injected into the system, into the economy there, no matter how small it is, there is less money that's spent to help generate increased sales for those very same businesses that need to thrive. That's how it works. That's how the engine in the economy works. When there is more money put into it, there's more money spent. This proposal is a modest proposal that says, look, if 4.25 is good enough for somebody who happens to fall outside the...or within the definition of the federal government, it clearly is good enough for the people that we should be protecting in the state that are employees who don't meet that requirement. And Senator Robinson's amendment affects the definition of what we call an employer.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: So it exempts out an individual. It doesn't deal just with a small cafe in West Point, Nebraska. It deals with any employer who fits that definition and is excluded from the federal definition of what minimum wage applies to. I would strongly urge you to reject the motion to return the bill to Select File. There are at least two others behind this,...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...we'll stay as long as we need to.

SPEAKER BAACK: The next speaker is Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, a question of Senator Hall.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hall, would you respond to a question, please.

SENATOR HALL: I'm sorry, yes.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Hall, yes, earlier in your testimony you made reference to 10 employees, I'm not aware of any number