

PRESIDENT MOUL: There is no one else wishing to speak on the issue, so I will recognize Senator Hefner for closing.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the body, like I said before, I didn't want to take too much time. You'll find this amendment on page 1426 and right now the small employers are required to pay \$3.35, according to the state minimum wage. This amendment says that, instead of going to \$4.25 July 1, 1991, it would go to \$3.85, and then it would go up to \$4.25 on July 1, 1992. I believe this is only fair. It would give those employers a little more time, an extra year, to get up to the \$4.25 wage rate. I think this is only reasonable. It's only just and the federal minimum wage increased this amount a year ago and so, since we didn't pass the state minimum wage bill a year ago, I think this is only fair to give them another year to phase this in. So I would encourage you to return this bill, LB 297, and so we can debate the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. We'll now vote on the motion to return to Select File. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted on the motion to return? Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam Chairman, are we on Final Reading?

PRESIDENT MOUL: Officially, yes.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, I would like to have everybody check in and then we'll have a roll call vote, regular order.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. We are on Final Reading. I would ask that all the senators return to their seats. Would all unexcused senators please return to the Chambers and please check in. We're looking for Senator Lynch, Senator Bernard-Stevens, Senator Byars, Senator Moore, Schellpeper, Withem, Pirsch, Hartnett, Hall, Rogers and Wesely. Would you please check in. Senator Lynch, would you please check in. We're still looking for Senator Moore, Senator Hall, Senator Rogers and Senator Wesely. Senator Byars, would you please check in. We're looking for Senator Rogers, Senator Hall and Senator Moore. Senator Rogers, Senator Hall and Senator Moore, would you please return to the Chambers. Still looking for Senator Hall. Okay, we will proceed with a roll call vote on the motion to return 297.