

cost because you really can't predict that. In this case, you can predict certain occupations tend to be...cost more in unemployment than what that industry pays in premiums. I don't believe that the amendment nor the bill itself is intended to take out all of the evening out processes, not intended to make each individual stand alone. There is an issue insofar as getting too high of a rate for negative balance employers in that we...the beginning employer in the State of Nebraska starts at 3.5 percent and then what the rate becomes after an experience rating is established depends upon the unemployment payments that are borne by their individual account. This puts Nebraska based building corporations, whatever they might be, whatever line of that end, in a rather disadvantageous position with new beginning companies or with companies who have not established...coming from out of the State of Nebraska, and have not established a rate, an experience rating in Nebraska. So that if you are bidding on a project and you have a 3.5 percent rate, you have one set of figures to enter into your cost analysis for your bid but if you are at the 5.4, in the case of this...if this bill were adopted, it would be 6.4 or 5.9 or whatever that case might be. On large projects, that can, in recessionary times, present quite a problem. I don't think we have finished with this issue without regard to what happens to 411 or the amendments. I think that it is going to be essential that in the future we look at those problems that Nebraska based corporations are facing in the construction trade, certainly, and try to make some adjustments to allow a more even competitive field for them in the bidding for projects. But, nonetheless, although it does not impact the individual account of a positive balance employer to any significant degree anything that reflects more closely the payout to an individual account and creates a benefit to the unemployment trust fund, does benefit the positive balance employers. So, from that perspective, again I would encourage the adoption of the amendment. As Senator Withem correctly diagnosed, the...a compromise was reached within the committee. There is no compromise of the opposing sides in this issue, I think, on the outside of these (inaudible).

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: The compromise, if there is to be one, is ours to make. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Before we proceed