

sofas had holes, there was no air conditioning, no shower. I have marks where bugs bit my back, nobody is supposed to live like that, not even the poorest person. So I think it appears that we are importing poverty. Many of these people leave disillusioned from what they may have been told as they were recruited in south Texas. Many of these people are unable to speak the language because they were brought here...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...a very short period of time. I do support this. Thank you for your time.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I don't know if I can add a lot to this debate. There have been some very good statements and debate so far today, but there are just a couple of things that I would like to point out. First of all, this bill did come out of the committee with a lot of support. There was six who voted in favor of and only one was not supporting. It's a bill that the Business and Labor Committee has heard several years running now and I think what Senator Chambers has brought us this year along with some of the amendments that Senator Beutler has offered make it even a better bill. Frankly, it really does escape me why any employer would not be doing some of the things that are indicated by this bill. It seems to me that the things that are mandated by this bill would be things that you would want to do anyway because it would increase the stability of your industry. To me, not disclosing what kind of a job a worker is going to have when they come here would mean that there could be a great deal of satisfaction when the worker got here, the worker may not stay long, you have to go get a recruiter to recruit again, I mean it just doesn't seem to me...you have to train again and I don't know how much training goes into some of these jobs, but it doesn't seem to me to be a very good way to run a business in the first place and I don't know why the state has to come in and say what you're doing isn't very good. I would remind the members of this body that this legislation that is being offered here that would affect primarily probably the meat packing industry is very similar to legislation that was passed at state level and federal level for ag workers over the years and I guess one of the people who came in to testify talked a great deal about the similarity of the situations, the abuses that