

SENATOR ELMER: Senator Abboud, would this bill, in any way, affect a business with this kind of an example? A small business owner buys an ongoing business and the former owner, in the last several years, has had some layoffs and things like this, and makes the experience rate for that business fairly expensive for the work comp or unemployment compensation, excuse me. Would this affect somebody new that's taken over an older business and would it change those rates or anything for them?

SENATOR ABOUD: Senator Elmer, I will be happy to check with the Department of Labor to answer that question. But my opinion is that that would be considered a new company under the terms of this Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund. Except a new...

SENATOR ELMER: Okay, so that the experience rate that the older employer or business owner has is not an incorporation, it's an individual doing business as.

SENATOR ABOUD: That's correct. They do not view that as experience under this...

SENATOR ELMER: So...

SENATOR ABOUD: ...and so they would have (inaudible).

SENATOR ELMER: ...the new person, the new person, you believe under this, would start out with a rate that's suited for just that from then on?

SENATOR ABOUD: As a new employer at 3.5.

SENATOR ELMER: As a new employer.

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes.

SENATOR ELMER: Okay, thank you. With that, I think this is a pretty good bill. Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Any other discussion on the motion to advance to E & R? Seeing none, Senator Abboud to close. He waives closing. The question is the advancement to E & R Initial of LB 334. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of