

February 22, 1995 LB 829

jobs, been beneficial to the district in the area, and so I just rise to take this opportunity to say that 7/5, in some areas, was good legislation.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Madam President and members. Senator Wesely, I listened to what you said about the welfare people and so on, and it behooves me just to speak a little bit because I remember when we were on the welfare reform bill I didn't feel like you were very cognizant of their problems because you want to throw them off after two years. But I'm not going to go into that argument right now. And that's an arbitrary decision, I feel. But what I...Senator Withem said a couple of the same things I'm thinking is that you can't put this kind of thing in the statute. But the second thing is people need to know and be educated to do most of the jobs that are going to come in with some of these companies. You can't just do it...walk in and say, I went to high school, or even I have a degree in this, that or the other thing, and actually know and have the skill and the knowledge how to do these jobs. And that's what I have told all the people who are on welfare. I also say to them...say that to them, get your education, you need the education and you need to know what jobs are out there and what kind of training you need. So for me right now putting this into this...and there is training in 829. There are training opportunities and training provisions. So I think we have to be really careful of holding a carrot out to people right now and giving them some kind of false hopes that just because we're passing this legislation there's going to be jobs available for all kinds of people. The second thing is there's all kind of echelons of salaries and wages in these. And I understand what you're saying, Senator Wesely, that this would have to add up with health benefits and so on. But even so, there are some jobs that would never come up to that 11 dollar an hour because they wouldn't be the technical jobs. So that's why I'm going to vote red. I wanted to say that so the people that I work with will understand that I'm still with them and I want to help them, but you do have to have that education and that training. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I appreciated the comments in opposition, not unexpected. But Senator Withem talks as though