

am going to raise the issue again about the jobs that are created under this bill. Now the bill that we had, LB 829, I had an amendment up to say that the jobs will have to be at least \$11 in terms of wages or benefits, but Senator Withem was correct and others were correct that it wasn't drafted the way I wanted to, which was to say that you didn't get the credit unless you had a minimum wage of \$11 or at least with the health care benefits. And I was looking at testimony on a bill that is an anticrime bill, and I saw that the Governor was talking to Senator Chambers about raising the minimum wage, and the Governor was talking about the package of bills that he has and how they attempted to attract industry that has jobs that pay more than the minimum wage. And if our goal, and the real question here is, is our goal to attract industry that pays more than minimum wage? And when you ask that, you have to understand, and I think it is redundant, because if you have a job it has to be at least the minimum wage. So to say that you are going to have...attract industry that pays at least the minimum wage is sort of nonsensical in the sense that, of course, they are going to have more than a minimum wage. The question is, are they going to have a substantial wage, something that people can actually live on, families can be raised on, that we can keep people off the welfare? And that is what this amendment says. If you want to qualify for the provisions of this bill, you have to have a \$50 million investment and higher 500 new employees, and I am saying that you have to hire those new employees, those 500 new employees at a minimum of \$11 in wages or benefits or you don't qualify. I think, again, the point I am trying to make is attracting jobs is what we want, but we also want to attract good paying jobs, not just minimum wage jobs. And I am trying to say that we ought to set a minimum floor, that if we are going to provide an extraordinary exemption as is provided under this bill, then we ought to take this opportunity to say that we truly want good paying jobs and put that into the statute, and not allow the tax exemption to take place without achieving that goal. We've done a lot of different studies and we've identified what it takes to raise a family. We all know the situation in our world today. We know that, in fact, the State of Nebraska and the City of Lincoln, has the highest percentage of women with children working in the work force of any place in the country. We have a much higher work ethic, yes, that's true in the State of Nebraska. We have people that want to work and do work, but we also have a situation where they have to work. Because of the low-paying jobs we have in the State of Nebraska, there are many