

situations and families that faces children, the responsibilities of raising a child, the cost of raising a child, and end up having to have both parents out of the home and working. It's because we don't have those jobs that at one time in our society, I remember when I was growing up, most everybody had one parent, the father out working, and the mother at home taking care of the children. It is not that we need to return to those days, obviously, but there is a consequence for a situation where it would be advantageous and desirable for one parent to be able to stay home with children and not being able to do so because the wages are inadequate to allow for that. So I'm suggesting we try to see what we can do to use the bills that we are talking about to attract the sort of businesses that provide the sort of jobs that are at least able to have the potential of allowing a family to meet their needs, and maybe even have a situation where they meet those needs and not having to have both parents working. Now, obviously, not everybody is going to get a job who is going to have children, they are not going to all be in a situation where that's absolutely necessary, but I think, overall, we have talked time and again about how our state has failed to attract, in spite of 775 and all the other bills, the type of high-paying jobs that we all thought we were going to get. Yes, it did attract some and many, and we are grateful for that, but it also attracted a lot jobs that were minimum wage, were not with benefits, and continue to qualify for the tax breaks. So I'm suggesting that now that we have the opportunity, and now that we have the chance to think through this proposal, that you will agree that we ought to set a minimum target on the jobs that we allow to qualify to get this tax incentive, and I'm suggesting that that level be set at \$11. And, again, that is not just the wage, we are not talking about an 11 dollar an hour job, but I could foresee eight or nine dollar an hour job with health care, and if we can get the health care, that relieves a lot of the pressures on our social system and the cost of uninsured individuals are borne by various public programs. Trying to have businesses that come in and provide health care is a very important step, and I would like to include that as part of this provision, and it is as the amendment states. So, again, what I'm offering is that the 50 million dollar threshold, and the 500 job threshold, add to that that the jobs pay at least \$11.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wesely. For discussion on the Wesely amendment, Senator Withem.