

May 8, 1995

LB 425

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Two hundred and fifty thousand.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's what I understood him to say.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So then the limit of 500,000 would show up the first time in the amendment that you and Senator Engel are offering today. Is that correct?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, now I'm locating these different things and I'm still having trouble coordinating it with the bill. For the matter that I'm talking about, we use the term "more than 100 employees" and then "fewer than 250 employees" as the new ones that would be created. So in one instance, a qualified business could employ more than 100 people, but if a business is going to create new employment, if that would consist of more than 250 employees, they could not get it. So these big companies would be between 100 employees and 250. Is that correct?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: They would be eligible for loans.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right. But I meant that's where we would get the 100 figure as the floor of these large companies and 250 employees as the ceiling for this category of large employees...

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that could get...okay, now I'm clear on where we are. And before I could offer my amendment, perhaps Senator Wickersham's would have to be adopted and then there would not be the necessity on my part of trying to amend something in the existing bill and his amendment that he and Senator Engel are offering at this point. So I will hold off on that, but Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment is the one before us now. This is not good policy in this bill, as it stands, period. Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment will reduce the amount of money that these big companies can get, the amount that an individual company could get. If one of these large companies is in the kind of trouble it would be in that would necessitate seeking this money, based on what this money is for, it's going to go under anyway. If it's moving along