

that Senator Wickersham has before us now and because it talks about the portion of the bill that refers to employees upward of a hundred, I could not easily, without creating confusion, offer an amendment to his amendment which would take away the references to those large companies and the references to those companies in the bill. So rather than try to draft an amendment that bridges those two, I will see what happens with his amendment. Then if it's adopted, all references to these large companies will then have been incorporated into the bill. And I will draft my amendment in such a way as to make it clear that all language which would make any company hiring more than 100 employees ineligible for a loan or a grant, and I would strike what language I could see clearly referring to that which would need to be stricken. In the existing bill, I can see where the language is. Based on Senator Wickersham's amendment that he is offering now, the matter will be complicated to some degree. Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment would come close to approaching what it is that I'm talking about. If you have a business hiring fewer than 50 people, or say 50 people or fewer, then \$250,000 could make a difference. Again, if you're talking about a business capital intensive that Senator Wickersham mentioned, \$250,000 is not that much money. You could have a business, as he pointed out, where you don't even employ 50 people, but because of the nature of the business, \$250,000 does not constitute that large an amount. So we have to determine, with this bill, if we're talking about those kind of businesses, which could swallow up \$250,000 easily and that not be considered much money.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Or are we talking about those businesses struggling to make it and \$250,000 is such a large amount of money that if it were not for a fund such as this, they could not get it. But if they got it, there's a good chance they could succeed. If that is what we're talking about and we mean small businesses like that, the bill would make more sense and would come closer to fulfilling the purposes that it's represented as being designed to reach. But, in the meantime, I do support Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment to limit the amount which any single business can receive to \$250,000.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Madam President and members of the body, I would