

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you and you couldn't be more direct than that, and whether we get it on this bill or not, I think that's something we do need to address. But now I have another question to ask you. Is this bill that you have commodious enough, it has been compared to a train with many, many cars. Do you have a caboose on there or at least a flatbed car that can carry the weight of these people who don't make the minimum wage while we're trying to fatten the pockets of those who already have pouches for pockets?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: I suggest to you that 1368 is good for all the people of the state of Nebraska because it makes a better, stronger state.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And are you willing to let those of us who are concerned about those at the lower end of the pecking order or the food chain hitch a ride on your train even if they're considered hobos and don't ride first class, don't have access to the Pullman cars, but would nevertheless like to hitch a ride? Are you willing to let us put those unfortunates on your train?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Chambers, I'm not, because you're framing the debate as you want to and not as it is. I said in the beginning I would oppose the Wesely amendment, although I am sincere and earnest about my own amendment to his. The reason I will oppose it is for the information I will share about the fact that raising the minimum wage is, in fact, not productive. It does not, in fact, accommodate the interests of single parents. It is essentially a wage which eliminates...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ..availability of opportunity for people at the lowest skill and lowest entry level of our economy which is at full employment in Nebraska.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Brashear, for your straightforward statement that evinces your lack of sensitivity toward the people who work these low wage jobs, and you wouldn't understand it because it doesn't apply to you and yours, but I intend to pursue this issue further and I've turned my light on again.