

Senator Pirsch voting yes. Senator Vrtiska voting yes. Senator Warner voting yes. Senator Hudkins voting yes. Senator Fisher voting yes. Senator Hilgert voting no. Senator Witek voting yes. Senator Avery voting yes. Senator Wehrbein voting yes. Senator Crosby voting yes.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 5 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Debate ceases. Senator Wesely is recognized to close.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. You know when you look up and you see there are 30 people here and you need 25 votes to adopt an amendment, you're in trouble. But I want to acknowledge those of you who took the time and had the courage to show up here to vote on this issue. I respect you even if you should vote against the amendment more than I do those that might decide to hide in their offices before...without taking the chance to come up here and express themselves on this issue. This is a fundamental issue. This issue talks about where our values are. This talks about what our priorities are. We have before us a piece of legislation that is recognized for the last almost ten years. Our priority has been giving tax breaks to those who are the strongest among us, whether they be corporate powers or individuals of wealth and means. This is trying to bring a little bit of balance and I say not even close to bringing any balance to that equation, by saying that those who are least among us, the working poor, those trying to raise families on a minimum wage need to do and receive better assistance from their employers in the wages that they receive. You know, today people are working harder and harder and getting less and less. You see more and more families, to get by, having both parents work while their children are placed in child care. And I know many are concerned about that, but the economic reality of the world is such that that's, that's the way we have to go it seems. Today I have some figures a colleague has put together, to buy a 1964 car, with the minimum wage, would have taken 1,400 hours. Today, that same car, with its increased price and the minimum wage increase it would take 3,600 hours, more than double the amount of time. Similarly with the house, the amount of work it would take essentially would double over the course of the last