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PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler for discussion on the advancement of LB 27.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Lieutenant Governor Maurstad, members of the Legislature, I just wanted to say quickly that I've seen a number of fair share bills over time in this Legislature and this one is far and away the fairest of the fair share bills and I support it. But there's one element of it that I wanted to bring to your attention because I think it should enlist the support of almost all of you, and that is Section 2 of the bill, which is the section that says an employee shall pay his or her fair share to a labor organization if, and I want to point out to you and I hope everybody understands the second "if" here, if the labor organization and the employer, employer, e-r, the one who's hiring, the labor organization and the employer have entered into agreement requiring represented employees, who are not paying membership dues to the labor organization, to pay their fair share. And so, the employer, in every place, has to approve of this plan. Now why is the chamber of commerce or business organizations or anybody else concerned about it? If the employer wants to enter into the agreement they can, and if they don't want to they don't have to. How can you be any fairer than that? Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. The Chair recognizes Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. My good friend, Senator Coordsen, has been trying to instruct me in the ways of the Legislature and I have to confess to you that I'm not totally comfortable sometimes with some of the ways. One of the things that... (laughter) that he has told me is that there are many issues that need to come to the body for discussion purposes and, as a member of the Business and Labor Committee, I was certainly agreement in bringing this issue to the floor because I think there are some issues that do need to be addressed. Senator Lynch is absolutely correct when he says that most of society have benefited from the work of unions. They have brought attention to many issues that need to be addressed in providing health benefits and other benefits to the workers of the state and the country. I think that's true. I think his intent is absolutely right and I am in full