

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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industry and tries to help develop that, correct?

SENATOR KREMER: Um-hum, promotes the industry, that's right.

SENATOR HILGERT: Now is that voluntary? If you don't feel like paying that checkoff, do you have to do that?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes, you do.

SENATOR HILGERT: It's mandatory?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Senator Kremer. Now why is this so accepted concept when it comes to agriculture but foreign when it comes to working people? And that's exactly what LB 27 does. It just says pay your fair share of the benefit that you get. The bill specifically does not talk about, does not allow any money to go to political campaigns, slush funds, whatever horror story that you can think of. It just goes to the cost of representing that individual, the cost of representing that individual in instances where that individual benefits. Everyone benefits if you're a corn grower. Well, maybe it's arguable, but you benefit (laugh) from the corn checkoff, you expand markets, you find out new uses for the product. It's a collective idea where we all put in a little bit in the checkoff system and you benefit from it. And all we're asking is treat our employees as good as we treat our bushels of corn in the state of Nebraska. Why can't we allow those people who are going to benefit from labor negotiations to pay their fair share? That's all it does. I've received many calls, as most of you have, regarding this bill and I'm having my staff right now call them back to ask them some more questions, because some of the...some of the contacts I've been getting are not accurate. It says that you will be fired if you don't pay your fair share. Well, I asked Senator Lynch and he couldn't spot and, you know, maybe I missed it. I can't find it in LB 27 where it says you're fired. One says that, this is from a company that says this is a money grab by big labor to buy more of our government. Well, I mean, what's that all about? Where'd they get that idea? Did they get it from an organization that basically exists and makes their money by