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SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate does not cease. Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I, in conversations with one of my colleagues, Senator Kremer, there's a few points I'd like to make about my analogy about the checkoff, and I have to admit I'm really not (sic) comparing apples and oranges because the checkoff system's much more strict than what this bill calls for. For example, the corn checkoff gets right off the top and it's a certain amount. What this bill calls for is only the direct cost of the negotiation and representation, only that cost. An example, a friend and I, my friend is nonunion, I'm union. I would like to get a raise. I'm forced, of course, by federal law, if I want to go get us all a raise, I have to include the nonunion folks too. So I hire an attorney for \$10 and we get that raise. What's the fair share here is \$5 and that's really the example. It's not a percentage of my paycheck. It's not a percentage of the dues. It's not a percentage of anything, except the actual cost of the negotiation of what you benefited from. So that's very different than the checkoff, which just asks for the money off the top, you're going to pay it, no questions asked. Another thing is I wonder if you have a corn checkoff if you can demand to have a presentation by the board to tell you exactly how the money's used and so forth. I'm sure you can become involved, you can certainly vote perhaps whether it goes to research or market expansion, et cetera. I assume that those democratic ideas exist in that system. But what this bill demands, this bill requires by state law of that labor of organization, is that labor organization must, must establish the procedure for the nonunion employee to (inaudible)...challenge the labor organization's fair share calculations. If I get assigned my \$5 and it's like I don't want to pay that, I don't think they spent that, by law, that union has to have an established procedure so that nonunion employee can challenge that calculation. So there's actually a lot more benefits. This is a lot more lax than the example I used prior, so, I mean, I'm glad we had a chance to talk about that. One...another point that was interesting in some of the letters I've been getting is that this would destroy Nebraska's economic environment and would hurt our economic competitiveness. I may have just been listening too much to the popular press and not to the people in the know, but the popular press at least has said one of