

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 15, 1999 LB 608

at that time, or if you're forced to take your vacation at that time that's even worse. It seems to me a double standard. I'm not sure what we did in the past in this case at all, but how can we separate out the fact that some...some benefit, whether there's a bargaining unit or not, probably in a lot of these cases there is no bargaining unit involved so it's not that issue at all, but if in fact you...you have vacation time, you should be paid if you're forced to be laid off with unemployment cases. You know, I'm, in fact, starting to think that a small business like I had for over 30 years, plumbing business, we, of course, always had unemployment insurance and had to have it.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR LYNCH: And the rates we paid were affected by what everybody else did. And, of course, I'm not quite sure whether...whether we knew about how the system worked at the time but, if given a choice, I'm sure that our rates would not have been affected by people who were intentionally laid off. We don't even know for sure how many people we're talking about at this point in time at all in the state. But it seems like with this bill, at this point in time, until I know more, I'd have to support an indefinitely postpone motion because of the fact that we should know how many people are affected, what in fact the rates would...how the rates would change from an unemployment compensation point of view, and none of that we know. And the fact that people who work in offices are treated differently than those who work in the plants is a terrible thing indeed and that hasn't been explained to my satisfaction, at least, as to...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR LYNCH: ...whether or not they're being fair.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Senator Beutler, on the motion to indefinitely postpone. Senator Beutler waives off. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Some have claimed they're not experts on labor law and I would...I have greater claim to that than I think most