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LB 608

person remains unemployed for the full 26 weeks. That's when my position comes in that differs from Senator Matzke's. I maintain that, at any point along the way after that fifth week, the employee who is unemployed could argue that when you prorate that \$2,500 out beyond the fifth week, and Senator Matzke says this would not happen, he feels the proration stops at the end of the fifth week, so it's clear where his position and mine are different. I believe the proration covers the entire period during which the individual is unemployed. And after that period of unemployment comes to an end, whether it's 6 weeks or 26 weeks, that person who was unemployed can go back and establish that when this \$2,500 was prorated out not one week would have entitled him or her to receive an amount from that \$2,500 equal to the weekly base pay, or \$500. Not one of those weeks, if you prorate the amount or divide it equally among all the weeks for which he or she was unemployed, not one of those weeks would entitle the person to \$500.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So that would mean the person, in effect, was unemployed for the entire period, once he or she left the employment. That would be determined after you got past the fifth week. You then go back and make the proration. Since during not one of those weeks was the \$500 amount received, all of those weeks would be recoverable. And that's the way I believe the language reads. And having had a chance to complete it all, thanks to Senator Beutler giving me that time, I really am through discussing this bill. I cannot...I don't know how I'll vote.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Matzke, your light is on, but I'll have to rule that request out of order, being's you have spoken three times on the issue. But you...we will welcome you to close on the matter, if you wish.

SENATOR MATZKE: (Microphone malfunction.) ...have a call of the house and then I'll close.

SENATOR CUDABACK: There has been a request for a call of the house. All in favor vote aye, all opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk. The house is under call. All...Mr. Clerk.