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leased employee status with benefits. And that'll be a step up. This bill ultimately, I think, will be helpful in providing, particularly women, jobs with benefits and that's going to be terrifically important as society moves along. We have had the loss of far too many jobs that have benefits, and this is a way of making a modest return to what I think was a much better situation and that was where people were fully employed with benefits and long-term employment. So for that reason, I support both this amendment and the bill I think ultimately will be good for people that are now suffering in part-time jobs.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Engel, you are next to speak.

SENATOR ENGEL: Madam Chairman and members of the body, I rise in support of LB 539, and I want to speak just on the bill generally. Does that fit in now or do I need to speak on the amendment.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Is that a rhetorical question?

SENATOR ENGEL: It's just a question that you may or may not answer. Anyhow, I'll go ahead and finish it. It's to support either one. But I agreed to prioritize this for Senator Bohlke because I think it's really a fairness issue because many of these young...of these smaller companies cannot compete with the bigger companies as far as hiring people and furnishing the certain benefits and so forth. So basically what this does in a lot of our areas is just puts everybody out on even...on an even playing field, and I strongly support it because it's going to help many, many of these smaller companies in the smaller towns and they will be able to hire good help and furnish good benefits, and that's what most of them are competing for now is being able to furnish these benefits for their employees. So this will be of great benefit for many of us in different areas in the state of Nebraska. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Engel. Yours is the last light that's on, so I will recognize Senator Bohlke to close on her amendment. Senator Bohlke waives closing, so the question is the adoption of the Bohlke amendment to the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye; all opposed vote nay.