

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

March 22, 2000 LB 973, 1363

feel like they're getting away, like a thief in the night, with this modest increase. The money will go into the General Fund. It will raise a little over \$100,000, so you can see I'm not trying to gouge the industry. Senator Connealy has a bill which is establishing a task force to look into the problems of integrating into the society of those immigrants who come to this country. On that bill will be added or attached an amendment which will create a position in the Department of Labor, and that position will be of an inspector who will go around to these meat packing plants and review, to see whether or not they are complying with these standards that the Governor laid out. And, if you look at those standards, they are not onerous, they are just things that ought to be done anyway by any decently run business. But obviously those things are not being done in these packing plants. So what I will do today is offer this amendment that will give that \$15 increase on these licenses. Senator Janssen, as I say, will explain how we arrived at that. His staff was very helpful in us coming to this point. But you will hear more on this issue when LB 1363 comes up. The money that will be raised by LB 973 will go into the General Fund. It is understood by everybody that when LB 1363 comes up and the amendment is attached to create that position in the Department of Labor, the money that will be used to fund that position will come from the money generated by this increase that we are making in LB 973 today. That amendment itself will be discussed in more detail when we get to LB 1363, but I wanted everybody to know of the interrelationship between these two bills and that an increase is not being made just to make one. This will not result in spending outside the Governor's ve...outside the Governor's budget, so the veto is not a threat with reference to this. Having said what I did, I would now like to give time to Senator Janssen, who is the Chairperson of the committee, who has suffered a great deal as a result of my actions on this bill in the past. And, if he's willing, I would like to cede some time to him.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Janssen, there's about five and a half minutes left.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Chambers. And if that's suffering, we can handle it all right. No, what we're doing here is raising something that has been, I think Senator Jensen