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FLOOR DEBATE

March 20, 2003      LB 608

that, once again, is not a maximum. That would be a minimum. So I think it has worked well without any maximum or minimum, but I think this proposal is in an effort to try and improve the legislation of LB 775. I think everybody would like to have it as good as we can have it. I just don't want to...

SPEAKER BROMM: Time.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: ...scare off businesses. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Let me tell you one technical thing that I don't like about this amendment compared to the committee's amendment, and that's the indexing mechanism. Because both ideas seem to say, look, if this number should grow over time, what's the appropriate index? The one that's in the Revenue Committee is a conservative growing Nebraska wage base number that we pulled out of the workers' compensation law. Ten years ago we modified our workers' compensation law and we indexed our workers' compensation benefits and we picked an index that said, Nebraska jobs minus federal jobs in Nebraska. Why? Because the federal jobs are relatively high-paying jobs. So the Business Committee said, well, look, we will index workers' comp benefits, but we don't want it to be a liberal index. We want it to be a conservative index. We want it on Nebraska's numbers and we don't want to include the federal employees because they get paid higher, and we did it. We created that index. It's Nebraska based, and it excludes the relatively high-paying federal jobs. It was an index that the business community accepted ten years ago in the workers' compensation field, and that's the index that we plugged this to. Contrast that with what Senator Pederson is suggesting, which is the federal minimum wage. What's the difference between the federal minimum wage and a Nebraska-based, Nebraska salaries-based number as an index? Now I will tell you what the difference is. The federal minimum wage is a political fight year after year in which the two parties take after each other. And, by the way, the one in dominance right now opposes raising the federal minimum wage. They say it's bad for start-up employment. It's a political fight about economic ideology. It is not a measure of what a