

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 25, 2003      LB 608

factors involved that people are trying to impress upon rural senators when they haven't been there and done that. We are out there. We see why our population is going down and we see why...what people will work for, and we also have my city cousins come out to rural Nebraska. They sit on the front step of my house, evening, and there's no noise. You might hear a coyote or there might be a jet plane go over at ten o'clock at night. There's no noise and they say, my, we'd take a lot less money to live out here and, in some cases they have moved out. But it's a different quality of living. We don't have the crime. We don't hear sirens in...all night...times of night. There's no train whistles and things. It's just a different situation. So I think we can work with what Senator Pederson had. I'm not sure how we're going to resurrect it, but I can't vote for this part of the divided question. We've got ourselves into a box here with insurance problems. Wages are an issue that we've been there and done that.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR BAKER: It did not work. So, until somebody can come up with something better, why, I'm going to vote against this particular amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Mr. Clerk, do you have an amendment?

CLERK: Senator Landis would move to amend the committee amendment with AM0969. (Legislative Journal pages 1020-1021.)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Landis, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: I was thinking of passing over this step, but I realized that I'd at least like to give the body this chance. I described for you a set of ideas to see whether or not you would find them acceptable or not, and the silence was deafening for the most part. We went back to the same debate of do we like LB 775 or not, for the most part. This amendment says this: \$8.70 wages in the urban areas, and the urban areas are counties with 20,000 or more; rural areas, \$8.25. The rural areas has the...an index that's separate for them and I think it was