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graphs to you that you might pick up and take a look at now if you want. One of them you may remember from an earlier discussion, but I wanted to point out that it's there for you to look at again,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and that's the graph that indicates that if you had just kept the minimum wage equal to inflation from 1978, when it became an integrated kind of measurement, you would be paying a minimum wage today of \$7.70. So going to \$6.30 doesn't even come close to restoring the minimum wage to what we used to feel was the bottom line for the low-end workers in our society. It keeps eroding away. And our government programs keep getting bigger, because we're subsidizing fair wages. If you look at a second chart, entitled poverty and the minimum wage,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Redfield, followed by Senator Stuthman and others.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. On page 2 of the green copy, you will find that in lines 15 through 17 the sum of the wages and gratuities received by each person compensated by way of gratuities shall equal or exceed the minimum wage rate provided in subsection (1). So, in fact, restaurant workers would be affected by the change that is proposed before us today. You will also find in line 22 that a learning...a student learner's wage, in order to qualify for using that rate of return, the employer has to be a part of a bona fide vocational training program. There are a number of businesses in the state that do hire young students to supplement their work force. They do it sometimes just as a favor to the students, because they know you need summer jobs, they know that you need jobs to supplement your educational costs. And so sometimes the employer doesn't always gain full value out of that money, but they know that they're building the work force of tomorrow, and so they're willing to do that and they're happy to do that. But we have to look at the cost. In the city of Omaha, the city council passed a living wage. You may recall the headlines, and there was a big uproar over the costs of that and what it was going to mean. I work for the