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SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR MINES: ...we all feel good about it. On the other hand, in today's economy, workers are highly valued and workers are paid fair and reasonable wages by the market, not by mandating, but by the market and by employers that need good, solid employees, and they're paid a decent wage, insurance and all those things that go along with it. So I oppose both Senator Foley's amendment and the bill, and return the rest of my time to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Foley amendment to LB 435. Senator Janssen, followed by Senator Erdman and others.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. I've been sitting here, listening to the discussion. I've heard it before. And, you know, none of us should pass judgment on anyone else until they have walked in his or her shoes, and that works both ways. We have employees, and every business has employees, that are capable of producing more than others, and those, those employees or those young people, older people, middle-aged people, they're compensated on what they can produce. And I listened to Senator Cunningham. You know, I've been in...I'm on my way out. I mean, this...but for years, for years, I've been in the retail business and, historically, young people usually get their start in business or in life working in some type of a retail business. If they live in a small town, that's where they go. They go to the drug store, which there aren't many of anymore because they've been driven out of business, a grocery store, a variety store. Those are communities that are struggling to survive. Those retail businesses in small communities, whether it be within a city or in a small town, these small businesses are not recipients of tax incentives such as we have for large, large companies that we'll give tax incentives to, to add to the fuel and fire of driving out smaller retail businesses, not just in the small towns but in the cities also. You go up and down the streets in Omaha, where there used to be thriving local communities where there were drug stores, variety stores, grocery stores. Those