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FLOOR DEBATE

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what steps to take to rescue their own chestnuts, and I pulled their chestnuts out of the fire for them. I have watched them arguing on this floor, not too many days ago, going nowhere. Then I came up with a solution. And do you know why? I thought we worked together.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I thought we helped each other. But I'm not going to help anybody here and strengthen their hand to harm and hurt the poor. So if they can be so hardhearted toward the poor, I will set my face like a flint against them and their interests on this floor. They want to do that for 85 cents, 65 cents. It's all right with me. I just need to know what the rules of the game are, or, as they say in these war times, what the rules of engagement shall be. I support Senator Schimek's amendment. I support Senator Beutler's bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Combs, followed by Senator Schrock, Schimek. Senator Combs.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. I'm kind of torn on how to vote on this bill. I'm leaning toward not, because of the response I've gotten from some of the business people in my district, I did put out a little feeler this noon. I went over to Husker Car Wash and got my car washed inside and out. A couple of guys that were doing the inside, we had a nice long conversation. They are college students and they are working for...they start their people out at \$5.60 an hour there. And I asked them, well, what's your opinion of minimum wage, you two guys. You're two working stiffs out in the community. We're talking about that this afternoon. And they said, well, their boss and their business has been suffering because of the construction on O Street, and they felt that anything that might hurt the business, be it given, you know, 85 cents doesn't sound like a lot to us. But when you talk wage compression, with them they said that if the new guys coming on got more, then they would want more; that that would affect the morale where they work. I can say that I do have a heart for poor people and rural people. Whichever way