

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 15, 2003      LB 435

of being cut. What are those...what are folks going to do? How are they going to support themselves? We don't want people on welfare, do we? Well, then how are they going to do it if we don't pay them a decent wage? Now I don't have all the facts and figures that Senator Beutler or Senator Mines or any of the rest of you have, but I do know that I have read that more people are adults than are children who are making minimum wage. And I don't have anything to substantiate that right now but I tend to believe the U.S. Department of Labor as being an unbiased group. Having said all of that, I don't believe we're probably going to change any minds here. I wish what we could do is come to a position where we could offer at least a little bit of help to these folks who are at the bottom of the rung economically, because I think there's a lot of anger out there, and I see it whenever, whenever LB 775 issue is raised. You know people are very resentful that we can give all this money to big corporations who already have a lot of money, and yet we don't provide for those people...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...who really need our help the most. So with that, Mr. President, I would withdraw the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk, next item to the bill.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend. (FA1311, Legislative Journal page 1282.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, you're recognized to open on FA1311 to LB 435.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, in order to attempt to come to some compromise on this, what this amendment would do would be the following. With respect to the first part of the bill that raised the minimum wage to \$5.80, it would not change it. With respect to the second part of the bill that would have raised it to \$6.30 this coming April or, yeah, next April, a year from now, instead it would bring it back down to \$6 and it would not make that change until April of