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SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Members of the body, Senator Beutler said something very interesting. He said that Senator Chambers' amendment hardly does anything at all to solve the dilemma, and that's exactly right, because the amendment actually refers to page 8 and there is no page 8 to the bill. I do believe that he is referring to line 8 rather than page 8 in the amendment, so that would need to be corrected if we want to go forward with this amendment. I do have some data for Senator Combs. This is from the Employment Policies Institute. Their research, which was based on data compiled from the January 2001 to December current population survey tells us that 7 percent of the people in Nebraska would be affected by an increase in the minimum wage, all the way to \$6.65, which is the proposal before Congress with Senator Kennedy, would actually only affect 7 percent of the people in Nebraska who are at that minimum wage, because only 7 percent are single parents or single earners and a couple with kids. I'm going to send this data around, because basically it tells us that in Nebraska, people earning under \$6.65 as the minimum wage, 50 percent of them are living with a parent or a relative, 20 percent are in dual earner marriages, and 23 percent are single or married but they have no children. So, in fact, we are talking about Senator Combs' question, which how many were affected that were the primary wage earner in the family. So I wanted to bring that to your attention and I will send that around, copies for everyone. But, Senator Chambers, you need to amend your amendment if you want to go forward with it. Thank you.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Redfield. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska and members of the body. First of all, I had not planned to speak on this issue hardly at all, but I am very sensitive to the people that are earning the minimum wage and the poor people in the communities. But I'm also very sensitive to the fact that there's been quite a bit discussion of the people in the rural areas, the amount of money that the farmers are getting, the subsidies that taxpayers are paying for the subsidies for the people that are in the