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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 608

earlier this year? And if that kind of wage structure is appropriate still with respect to LB 270 and the rural area, surely it's applicable and acceptable and appropriate for LB 775. Senator Landis, let me ask you, what's wrong with keeping the wage provisions applicable to LB 775 in the bill?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Two things. The use of \$8.25 is not suggested by the business community. They do not like \$8.25. Were it not for this...if this were an amendment outside the context of how it's raised here and just added like a straight addition to the bill there would be a floor fight on \$8.25. There will be a floor fight on \$8.25 if we go back to LB 608. Might win; might lose. Don't know. But there will be one because the business community doesn't agree with \$8.25.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But this body agreed with \$8.25.

SENATOR LANDIS: The last time it was here, that's right.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well,...

SENATOR LANDIS: You had a number of parties who, at that time, didn't object and they were...and I am facing and have been preparing for a fight on wages. I expect it to occur. We might win. I know that parties who didn't vote the last time were not supporters of the wage. I don't know the outcome this time if we go back to that fight. That number was not...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, I, for one, am...

SENATOR LANDIS: ...chosen for that (inaudible).

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...willing to have that fight rather than to have nothing at all on LB 775. And to maintain high wages in the rural areas and we say nothing about wages in the urban areas, it makes no sense to me whatsoever. But let me ask you about wages in the rural areas. It's stated to be \$8 and whatever, but then the very next year, probably the first year it will actually be in much use, it's adjusted by some factor.