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LB 608

fact, there was an organized effort to lower the wage numbers. In fact, the only action that was done on wages is to lower the amount of wages that we were asking for in the Revenue Committee because we weren't going to get the Revenue Committee numbers when we did, and we did get 25 votes for the wages as they were, but we also didn't have a fight to lower them. I don't know the outcome of that. Bring this bill back, fight about wages, and you know what I've got on my hands here, I've got a fight probably to lower the wages from \$8.25, when, in fact, I've got a chance to put it into the LB 608 program, which I'd rather do. So there's a thing to lose there. What's also withdrawn but is waiting on LB 608 is to take the LB 775 program and dumb down its requirements and standards in rural areas, instead of \$3 million asking \$1 million, instead of asking for 30 employees asking for 10 employees. Didn't get to that because it got withdrawn so we could move the bill to Select File but I think the assumption is there is no way...the only thing we're going to do is be tough on LB 775, no. In fact, we've got amendments that have been pending and that were withdrawn to let us vote after three days that want to take LB 775 and water it down. In other words, we can lose ground from where we are now because this is not as if we all have agreed to those provisions. We haven't, and certainly the lobby hasn't. I got to tell you we came in with a bill that was going to do something off meatpackers, it doesn't. We had a bill that had benefits in it, that came out. We had a bill with \$9...over \$9 in wages, that came out. And I think Senator Beutler's argument is let's take the pieces that we've got, and what I'm telling you is there is no assurance you get those pieces. I think, in a sense, Senator Beutler asked but what does the lobby give up? And here's what the lobby gives up and that's the chance to write LB 608 even more to their liking. One of the things they give up is the fact that the disclosure provisions aren't disclosure. There is no more information asked of anybody under LB 608...

SENATOR ENGEL: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...but it will look as if it did, and we will then declare victory on that argument. I don't want to do that. So I think there are things that are being given up. The chance to dumb down LB 775, which is what was out there; the chance to