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LB 608

General File pretty carefully. LB 608 came out of the Revenue Committee a strong, tough bill. And every effect on General File was to reduce that. Now there was one place where a stand was made and this is exactly the one. Senator Beutler is right. By the way, in a different context, in fact on General File, I was a supporter of that. I was supporter of the committee, and it's higher. In fact we started over with a \$9. And the proponents of wage calculations, among myself, I think Senator Thompson was such a supporter, Senator Hartnett, Senator Beutler, Senator Chambers and others who wanted this, came down to \$8.70. What happens if there is an amendment to strike this and adopt the committee...the amendment of Beutler, in this case, and then we get another amendment that says, you know, let's drop this because \$8.70 is commercially unfeasible, it should be \$7.50? How do I stop that auction? I stop the auction by saying the whole fight is done another time. Well, one of them says, you know, you're right. Now that we've brought LB 775 back to the mix, we really need to meet LB 775 work in rural areas and we need to have not 30 employees out there but 10 employees. Let's just do that just to make sure it's balanced. We did this thing that Senator Beutler wanted, now let's get another balance over here on LB 775 and let's do that, let's drop down those standards. Or it could be, wait a second, we did something that Senator Beutler and the supporters of people who wanted to bell the cat of LB 775 got their way on wages, shouldn't we drop the investment from \$3 million to \$1 million to make sure it's balanced. And the way I'm going to fight those amendments, should they ever come, is because I'm going to say, no, we are going to do LB 775 another day. And the general effect of what's happened on the floor is that myself, as a person who wanted to tax LB 775, disclose LB 775, raise wages and include benefits, and strike out the meatpacking industry with its history of exploiting workers, was that I got beat at every turn because this body didn't want to do those four things. And I'm a little leery if we start an auction here. I want to come back another day. In fact, I think I need the public to turn up the heat on all of us if we're going to do better because I don't think we did a very sterling job this year. And a little time, and a little heat, and a little public anger is not bad from my perspective because I think it will turn the heat up on LB 775. So delaying is not bad for me from