

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 21, 2003

LB 608

my perspective, and it's not bad, by the way, for the lobby that says, you know, rather than some half-baked ideas, we'd like to not send these messages. It happens to be a strange little meeting of the minds. Why would I vote against an amendment that I believe in, which is \$8.70? Well, one of the reasons I'd vote against it is because I'm afraid of what happens with the auctions that can be later on. And I think the body, my views and the body views seems to be at odds on LB 775. I think I'm tougher on it. I think I want a more...do more to it. I think I want to make more changes than the body does, and I tried to read the street on General File. So I'm going to stop all auctions because the auctions that we've done so far have been to the diminution of changes in LB 775 by not starting an auction and fighting another day with more resources. That leaves me then with doing better by what we have now; a cheaper, more effective, more accountable program than what we have. And that will be an achievement. That will be to the good. And it will be aimed at something this body cares about which is...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...rural economic development. That is something worth doing, and I'm sacrificing one for the other, I confess. But I'm willing to do that because I think the trade on balance is good. It's a good trade and I don't need to ask for more. I've got a sufficient exchange from my perspective. I'm giving and I'm getting. And I think that's, from my perspective, that's fair and I'll fight another day on wages because I want to start with a number over \$9.00, and I want to start with a number that includes benefits. And I want to start with something that includes medical treatment for workers. That's where I think the fight should be had, not just here. And with more time and more energy and more public outcry, I might be able to do better next year. And I also have the risk of doing worse this year if we start the auction.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Bromm, on the Beutler amendment.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. And I would agree with what Senator Landis articulated. I think if we go down