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FLOOR DEBATE

May 21, 2003

LB 608

thought it would make some sense with respect to people who had been hired by political subdivisions out and around the state if, in fact, we were going to give state aid in one form or another anyway, that it might make sense to couple the idea of state aid with the idea of a minimum wage in the rural areas. But the category that I had picked out specifically was the category of people who sought employment with the cities and counties who were family farmers and ranchers, the spouses of those who actually lived and worked on the land but who might...but whose spouse might work for a city or a county in a very low-level job, perhaps part time, but whose income, like a very high percentage of families on farms and ranches, whose income is highly dependent upon, in a great many cases, the income of the second wage earner in the family, a nonfarm, off-the-farm wage earner. So if those wages could be bolstered it would support both the farm and the farming operation, and be a fair thing to do from my particular perspective in that obviously I believe that all people deserve to be paid at least a living wage. In any event, with regard to this particular amendment, it suggests a minimum wage of \$8.60 an hour, which is only slightly above what you've already approved for the LB 270 program,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...so the only...the only request with regard to this particular item is that you similarly apply a reasonable wage level to the enormous benefits, to associate and require that in association with the enormous benefits that we're giving to employers under LB 775. And, Senator Cudaback, I'd ask for a call of the house.

SENATOR CUDABACK: There's been a request for a call of the house. All in favor of the house going under call vote aye, and opposed nay. Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLEPK: 19 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to place the house under call.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The house is under call. All unauthorized personnel please leave the floor. Unexcused senators report to