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Louden, on your amendment.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. On this, the amendment that I've put onto LB 1049 is something that would help people on Social Security. And Senator Brown and Senator Bourne have both brought up that they feel that if people are already receiving some benefits, they shouldn't be allowed to receive any benefits otherwise. First of all, when you have these people that are on Social Security, they probably, if they were receiving enough benefits, they probably wouldn't be working otherwise. The next thing you have to consider is that when these people are working at a full-time job, the employer is paying the benefits in to the trust fund for them. Do you suggest then that the employer should be able to deduct what he's...their payroll so that he doesn't have to pay into the benefit program? If you're going to have somebody pay into the...into the trust fund, then they should be allowed to receive the benefits from it. It's a matter of being fair about the situation. If somebody wants to work and the benefits are deducted, then they should be allowed to receive them. And this is what's happened with the way the situation is now. If they try to receive the unemployment benefits, the Social Security benefits are deducted from it, simple as that. That's the way it was put in. Fine. If their Social Security is humongous, like some people may have one, that's...that will probably work. But I'm talking about the people that are on the low end of the Social Security scale. They're still able to work and be independent, and there's time in there when they can do some good and be able to receive the benefits. It isn't a lot of people in there. It's, what, 1,241 people in the state of Nebraska. That isn't a big bunch of people. And this isn't something that will continually go on forever because, as the time works on these folks, they won't be able to hold these jobs. So I think you're losing sight of what's right and what's wrong on here. I think this is something that would help a class of people that are trying to help themselves, and I would certainly urge the adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Cunningham.