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really is trying to make his bill better, rather than by virtue of whether he has the 33 votes, just cramming everything down people's throats. I still remain very concerned about the Louden amendment, because I agree with what Senator Bourne has said. It needs to be there for people who are the most in need. It is not an entitlement; it is a circumstance, it's a safety net. And we need to preserve that safety net and we need to preserve it most for the people who need it most, the people who are long-term unemployed--that's my opinion--and the people...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BROWN: ...who have no other sources of benefits coming in, who need to be able to exist until such time as they can find other employment. So I will oppose the Louden reconsideration, oppose the Louden amendment. But I do believe that either my amendment or the Cunningham amendment makes this bill better. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm going to do something unusual. I'm not going to talk about the amendment or the bill itself. It just came to my attention by my staff that there was an EPA and a DEQ and a Highway Patrol investigation that took place yesterday. And I think it's worthy of note, and I bring it to our attention, because we just confirmed in a confirmation this morning the environmental compliance officer for that organization. The World-Herald article reads: Suspected environmental law violations at a Hastings, Nebraska ethanol plant prompted state and federal investigators to carry out a search warrant Tuesday at the facility. Criminal investigators from the U.S. EPA searched the ethanol plant, along with investigators from the Nebraska State Patrol and the Department of Environmental Quality. "The reason for the search warrant was possible environmental violations," said Dale Armstrong, a spokesman for the EPA in Kansas City. Now, I bring this to attention because I think, one, we need to pay attention to these confirmation hearings and to the people that we do confirm. The particular confirmation that we had, I sat in on that hearing. I think the committee did a good job in asking