

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

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SPEAKER BROMM: The motion to reconsider is successful. I raise the call. And we will now move to consideration of the Louden amendment, AM2291. Mr. Clerk. Senator Louden, since we are reconsidering your amendment, AM2291, I'll recognize you if you wish to open on the amendment.

SENATOR LOUDEN: And thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I've reopened on this thing about three or four times now, so I guess most everybody has heard what I've had to say about the bill. But I will reiterate some of the higher points of it. This is something that's about fairness. This is something about helping people in an upper age group that doesn't have that many years of work life left. This is something about people that want to be independent. And this is an amendment that would help those that really are in an area that do suffer and have a problem put upon them by the way the statutes happen to be written. If they were on railroads retirement fund, they wouldn't be penalized. If they were on veterans retirement, they wouldn't be penalized. If they were...have investments someplace, they're not penalized. But if they're on Social Security--and these are people that are on the lower end of the Social Security scale; I'm talking about people that are down in the \$600 and \$700 area, that could be eligible for unemployment that would help them a great deal through the time that they are unemployed. And these are for people that get full-time jobs. These aren't part-time workers that work from day to day or from time to time, or greeters, or whatever they are. They have to have a full-time job in order to have benefits paid in for them. So this is something that I think really is...will help out people in this age group, and I certainly urge you to vote for this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Louden. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Cunningham would move to amend Senator Louden's amendment with AM2803. (Legislative Journal page 776.)

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Cunningham, to open on your amendment.