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what you do. Did you say time, Mr. President?

SENATOR CUDABACK: I did, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Yeah. Thank you. (Visitors introduced.)
Senator Beutler, on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members... (Microphone malfunction)

SENATOR CUDABACK: You may continue.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, I wanted to just finish the short discussion on the charts that were passed out by the Department of Labor last November, because, again, I think they're important for a proper perspective on exactly the parameters of what we're discussing today and why we're discussing it. But when I left off of the discussion, I was referring back to a chart they passed out that showed the insured unemployment rate from 1970 all the way to 2003. It shows, basically, that the insured unemployment rate in that period of time has been as high as 3.7 percent, and as low as about .75 percent. And it did show in the last three years, as I indicated to you, that the unemployment...insured unemployment rate is going up dramatically. However, think about this, now. At its very peak, right now, at the top of that dramatic rise right now, it is still less than all but one year between 1971 and 1989. I mean, so we're not talking about some big, major crisis here. We're talking about, yes, a sharp upturn. But still, at this point in time, it is below, and way below, many of the years in the 1970s and 1980s. So let's keep that perspective, to a certain extent. I also took a keen interest in some of the other charts that pointed out the costs of the unemployment system in Nebraska. And they had one chart, it was entitled, 2004 estimated cost per employee. That is, for every employee on the system--and I assure you, we don't have any more on the system than most states--for every employee on the system, it costs, in Nebraska, \$123. That's 44th among the states. In a great many of the states, the cost is twice that