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SENATOR CHAMBERS: And so the person, whom you say you have so much concern for, may be facing a lawyer for a company in district court, whereas he or she has no lawyer. Is that true?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Could you restate that, Senator?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: A person who is poor and has obtained a judgment in small claims court may find that judgment appealed by the losing collection agency to the district court, where the collection agency will have the benefit of a lawyer. Is that correct so far?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: I believe that would be correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And the poor person may not be able to afford a lawyer, so it would be an unrepresented poor person facing a lawyer in district court.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: In that scenario, you would be right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, if you raise the amount where it is alluring to a collection agency to use a lawyer, or threaten a poor person with a lawyer, then you do not help the poor people, those for whom the small claims court was created. It is to be a small claims court. I'd like to ask Senator Cunningham another question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Cunningham, would you respond?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes, I would.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Cunningham, why--if you told us, I may have missed it--did the Nebraska Supreme Court not raise the amount to what it is you're seeking to have the Legislature raise it to?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: We have it in our statutes, Senator. We do raise the amount every five years, adjusted to the Consumer Price Index.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And it's tied into the Consumer Price Index,