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from the bill. I think it's also important because of the fact...of the impact on the employer. There are a number of businesses in our state who are frequent employers of young people, whether it's to sack groceries, whether it's to work a checkout desk, whether it's fast food, and they may not be glamorous jobs, but they're necessary jobs. Someone needs to do it, and these employers certainly need people to do it, and oftentimes students like them, because the hours are easily accommodated to a school schedule or a sports schedule. And they are looking for an employee that can bring them a cost benefit, and many times they don't bring you a higher-than-minimum-wage cost benefit, at least not in the beginning. And nothing in the bill would preclude someone, an employer, from paying that young person more, but I think that we need to have a recognition within the bill, as there was in the original green copy, that employer could adjust a rate and actually not raise our current minimum wage right now on that young population group. And so I am concerned about that being dropped out of the bill. I'm hoping that if the committee amendment is adopted, that we can reinsert some language for teenagers back in on Select File. Now why would someone like me think that it's a good idea to raise minimum wage? When you look at comparisons in Nebraska, you see that compared to many other states, we're a low-wage state, and that is very costly, as Senator Beutler has explained to you, in the support of many of our social programs. It costs us in the delivery of Medicaid programs; it costs us in...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR REDFIELD: ...many other programs that we see a large increase in our budget for. I'm a proponent of personal responsibility. I'm a person who wants to encourage people to work and build a career path that can provide for themselves and their families in future years, and I think that we need to do something to raise the demographics in our state and start bringing the costs of employment into reality where, in fact, people can provide for their own needs. I've talked to a number of employers when we had this bill before us, and everyone was telling me that certainly in most markets across the state, you can't hire someone for \$5.15. They are already paying higher