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SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Are they exempted because there aren't too many people being paid minimum wage, or because government has this special consideration like they have with the lottery?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Because government...pardon me?

SENATOR SMITH: (Laugh) I threw in a little editorial comment there on the lottery.

SENATOR BEUTLER: All right.

SENATOR SMITH: That it's against the law for the private sector to do it, but as long as the government gets the cut, then it's okay.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, I think...I don't know what the theory was originally, but I think all...most governmental units have bargaining units, for one thing. There are almost no minimum wage workers in state government, for example. And probably part of it had to do with small towns and the small places, such as many places in your district. I'm sure there was some sort of political compromise there someplace.

SENATOR SMITH: Well, I...thank you, Senator Beutler. And I'm trying to determine, as I said before, you know, who will this affect? And there's such a litany of exemptions, I'm not sure who will benefit. And I'm very concerned about government mandates having unintended consequences that, you know, we're wanting to do good, and I mean that specifically, not in terms of doing well, but to do good, to perform good deeds in government, and too often, it does the exact opposite.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President.