

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 29, 2006 LB 554

page 1318.) 25 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The Beutler amendment has been adopted, and I do raise the call. Mr. Clerk, when you get time, next motion.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Cunningham would offer AM2970 to the committee amendments. (Legislative Journal pages 1318-1319.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. This amendment is a technicality. It's basically the same amendment that we just voted on, except...well, what it does, it changes the dates in the committee amendment. The committee amendment, being as it was done last year, the dates were wrong, and so we...if you are for the committee amendment, we need to pass this, or leave in Senator Beutler's now, but it does correct those dates. But the other big thing that this does over what Senator Beutler's does, it leaves the wage levels for the regular minimum wage and the training wage at the same level as they were in the committee amendment copy of the bill. So with that, I will close. I should...I should clarify here a couple things so some of you know where I am. Even though I introduced the committee amendments, as Chair of the Business and Labor Committee, I am philosophically against the minimum wage increase, so I'm also against the passage of the committee amendments and the bill. So just so you understand and I can be up front very early on where I am on that, if you look at the committee record, I voted against the committee amendments in the committee also. But I just wanted to make you aware of that. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Cunningham. Heard the opening on AM2970 to the committee amendments to LB 554. Open for discussion. Senator Cunningham, your light was next. Did you wish to...?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: I'll just be brief. Thank you, Senator Cudaback. You know, we've heard a lot of talk, Senator Kruse earlier and Senator Redfield, about how you don't have that