

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

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adopted. I have additional amendments at this time, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Beutler, would you like to give us a brief on...a summary?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, you'll recall we have adopted one amendment, and basically the point we're at now would...the provisions would provide for an increase in the minimum wage, staged in three stages and ultimately would come to \$6.46. In an effort to garner further support, I've been working with Senator Redfield and am prepared to make another significant compromise on it, and I think we'd probably just as well go to that compromise and talk further about the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Beutler, I have a note you want to withdraw AM3093.

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's right, Mr. Clerk.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Senator Redfield would move to amend with AM3168. (Legislative Journal page 1550.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Redfield, to open.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. The amendment that was prepared for you actually deals with Senator Beutler's amendment to the committee amendment that was adopted the other day. It raised the minimum wage for three years, and it went to \$6.46 in the third year. This amendment would drop it back to \$6.26 per hour for October 1, 2008. That is back to the original language in the green copy for that 2008 year. And that was the vote that I sat out. It was adopted, and there was no question that there were enough votes to do it, but we want to make sure that we've reached a comfort level and that we don't push the envelope. I did sit out that vote