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April 10, 2006 LB 554

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Would Senator Redfield yield to a question?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Redfield, would you yield to a question from Senator Smith?

SENATOR REDFIELD: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Redfield, I understand that your amendment would hold those 17 years of age or older out of the...or, excuse me, 17 years of age or younger out of the mandate for a higher minimum wage; is that accurate?

SENATOR REDFIELD: Yes, it would pull them out.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. Thank you, Senator Redfield. Senator Beutler, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Sure.

SENATOR SMITH: So you're supporting the amendment as a means of compromise, or what is your intention here?

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's exactly right.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. Thank you, Senator Beutler. I'm struggling with this, and perhaps it speaks to the larger issue of raising the minimum wage, and who really benefits from it. To be quite honest with you, there are a lot of 16- and 17-year-olds who deserve a lot more pay than perhaps they're getting, and to just exempt them from this, I have concerns about, and I'm struggling with how to handle that. But I'm extremely concerned, and certainly I've heard from some constituents that a fast food restaurant actually starts their employees at \$5.90. It's already well above the minimum wage. And the impact, though, of a bill like this, I have concerns about, and certainly there are unintended consequences of any government mandate. And if this is going to increase so many people's or individuals' livelihood, and enhance their