poverty? And not 12 states, but 19 states now, Senator Cunningham, have enacted their own minimum wage law. The inherent unfairness and injustice of the situation is becoming apparent to everybody. And how will we keep our labor pool here in Nebraska, which is already very, very small, if we insist that our wages be so low here? If I can get higher wages someplace else, why don't I go there to work? I think that's what's happening. So it just exacerbates our problem of having a small labor pool, which is one of the reasons that people don't come here to start businesses. There is...addressing another issue, there are no studies that show in any sort of conclusive manner that modest increases in minimum wages hurt business. It's just not shown. And for a variety of reasons that shouldn't be the case. If nothing else, to the extent that very low wages prevail, and to the extent that that becomes broader in our society,...

SENATOR BAKER: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...that's more and more people that aren't able to buy things, so that money is not circulating, so that businesses have fewer customers. It's a vicious cycle that we get involved with here. But ultimately, coming back to the bottom line, it's just a question of simple fairness. How long would you let this go on? Would you let it go on until basically, they were totally dependent on government for everything? I think the economic system should rely less upon government to take care of the poor people, and with respect to the working poor, set up a system whereby they make enough money to take care of themselves. If you allow this minimum wage increase, on an annual basis that amount of money would be enough for somebody to buy an insurance...a health insurance premium for their family,...

SENATOR BAKER: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and that would be a good thing, wouldn't it?

SENATOR BAKER: Time. Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Burling.