

Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce opposing this. I have not heard one word from the Nebraska Association of Commerce and Industry. They have not written me. The only letter in my file is open here is one from the Association of General Contractors which I believe, you know, they really get hit the hardest and several letters from several unions. And when I speak for the working man, I am not speaking for the ones that belong to the unions. I am speaking for all men and women that work whether they belong to a union or not. I am speaking that we have a moral obligation to keep these people alive, keep them from starving, keep them from turning to crime which costs us even more money, and I think that Senator Hall has offered a very fair bill there. So I would urge the body at this time to reject Senator Barrett's amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: And hopefully we could get on then to advance Senator Hall's bill as amended. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pirsch, did you wish to speak about the Barrett amendment? Oh, here she comes, okay. Pardon me.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for being patient. I just heard from the Chamber of Commerce, and the National Association of Commerce and Industry and I do rise to support Senator Barrett's amendment. The column A which is the gross highest quarter, when you add the amounts that are still left in Senator Hall's amendment, I think are ultimately fair when you take that and add those up, those benefits up per week. We do not need to add to the burden and I think that Senator Hall has done a good job for his constituents to raise this, and I support this amendment of his with Senator Barrett's amendment to adjust the top figures in this state. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, and members of the body...

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel.) Just a minute, Senator Hefner. Please hold your conversation down. (Gavel.) Please hold your conversation down. It is difficult to hear. Thank