

what you earn. Obviously if you earn less you don't get the maximum as in any system. But anyway, I believe if you will check, that is more, that is more than the rate of inflation. And so, if anything, they have, by those numbers, exceeded "the rate of inflation" or the cost of living. I think a system of workmen's comp to be effective has to also have as one of its goals not to deliberately create the malingerer situation. In other words, the situation in which it becomes so fruitful, so good to stay on workmen's comp, that there is no incentive to get back to the workplace and I think that magic line has to be drawn to devoid creating that condition.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR DECAMP: I think Nebraska has pretty well got that line drawn. Finally, the most important point I would make is this. Irrespective of what the increases are in the bill, irrespective of whether the amount should be 225, 250, 300 or whatever, the essence of this bill is not necessarily an increase. The essence of this bill is a change of systems to the COLA system and the COLA system is an automatic increase based upon the rates of, not inflation, but the average wage. And in Nebraska that will traditionally be more than the rate of inflation because of the groups that is composed of...the workmen's comp class in Nebraska doesn't include such people as farm labor, doesn't include baby-sitters and domestics. Therefore, the class that is involved traditionally has a higher average increase in their annual wage than the rate of inflation.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Time.

SENATOR DECAMP: I urge you to kill the bill.

SENATOR CARSTEN: The question is, shall LB 958 be indefinitely postponed? All those in...a call of the house has been requested. All those in favor of going under call will vote aye, those opposed will vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 17 ayes, 2 nays to go under call, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: The house is under call. Will all the senators please return to your desks and push your green button. Those that are not in the Chamber, please return