

Wage

Continued from Page 1

from the federal minimum wage, Hall said.

Companies with fewer than 10 workers are exempt from the federal wage law. Nebraska law only exempts companies with fewer than four workers from the minimum wage.

Hall said many of the companies with four to 10 workers pay more than the minimum wage, so the law would affect few workers.

Although some look at it as an economic development bill to "put more money into the pockets of the people who need it," Hall said, he just looks at it as an "equity issue."

Two people spoke in favor of the bill and one opposed it at Monday's public hearing.

In a statement to committee members, Gordon McDonald, president of the Nebraska State AFL-CIO, said, "We live in a society that claims to value work and does. But work hasn't done it for those people not covered by the federal minimum wage. I hope you can support this modest increase for those who need it the most..."

Paul Eldien, owner of Eldien Dairy Queen in Lincoln, testified against the bill, saying the increase to \$3.35 an hour hurt his business.

Eldien said he supports the training wage for new employees under 20 years old of \$3.25 an hour beginning July 1, 1990, and \$3.61 an hour starting in April 1991. The training wage, included in the federal law and the Nebraska bill, can be paid for 90 days with the possibility of a 90-day extension.

For the first part of a new employee's work, Eldien said, most of the time is spent in training and "we've wasted our money" on the pay.

Sen. Elroy Hefner of Coleridge said he agreed with Eldien that a training wage is necessary.

"Sometimes, when you hire the younger people, you have to do a lot of training," Hefner said. "Some of them just don't know how to work."

The bill also raises the minimum wage for tipped employees from \$2.01 to \$2.09 an hour starting July 1, 1990, and to \$2.13 beginning in April 1991.

William C. Parker

to speak on

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Dr. Parker, Vice Chancellor for Minority Affairs at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, is nationally renowned for his expertise in human development, psychology, motivation, and affirmative action. He has provided consultant services to over 800 colleges and universities and has been granted over 500 Outstanding Service Achievement Awards.



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NCAA

Continued from Page 1

athletes only can receive \$1,700 out of a possible \$2,300 in federal aid.

Non-scholarship athletes lose their varsity eligibility or are counted against a school's scholarship total -- the NCAA allows 95 for football and 15 for basketball -- if they accept federal aid.

Landis said senators agree that withholding federal aid from non-scholarship athletes is discriminatory. But senators are concerned about possibly placing the university and the NCAA in conflict, he said.

"We must ask ourselves, 'Why must we comply with a rule we know is wrong?'" he said.



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