

not support this, some of us dumber ones, or is it more stupider senators (laughter) do realize what our staff does for us. I'm just an old gandy, and when I came in here I didn't even know how to find the bathroom. I can now find the bathroom. And it did, it took three years, but the staff in here, if you really want to get down to it, the staff does almost everything in here. We get up and talk and look good, or look bad, whatever, on the floor and in committees, but who's always working when we're out having a nice dinner with some lobbyist, or out in the evening, who stays late while we go to a function, or a nice dance with the Governor, who does all the work? Who does all the work? I know who does it in my office, and it's not me. Give a little leadership, a little direction, and they do all the work, and I think that's probably how it is in the majority of the offices in this building. It's the staff that makes us look good here, and it's the staff that makes us look good at home. It's the work your staff does that gets you reelected or not reelected. And, as Senator Chambers has pointed out, you do not have to give this raise, if they are not deserving. I think it is a very unique situation, a very unique job, like nothing else in state government. They talk to your constituents on the phone, mad constituents, and make them happy, calm them down, send all the pertinent information they ask for, and they make you look good. And if they don't make you look good, you should get rid of them. Some of the smartest people, or the smartest people in this building, in my opinion, are all staff. Those of us here might have a little flare for the show, or a little charisma, but the people that do all the work, in my opinion, and have all the brains are the staff people, a very unique situation, handle all kinds of problems with our constituents, make us look good here, make us look good at home, and deserve this amendment. I'd urge your support. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Wehrbein, followed by Senator Hillman and Senator Hall.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam President, I'll speak briefly on this, and I realize persons are speaking at risk on this, because I'm sure many are listening attentively. But I am going to oppose the amendment, as I did in Exec Board. And it's primarily because in this year of, should be austerity, and I think actually more austerity than we're practicing in many cases, we need to practice what we are preaching. Giving an additional raise to the Legislative Council employees on top of regular state employees is something that I don't think that we should