

explained, yes, it would be.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Senator Hefner, may I ask you a question? Senator Hefner, if we adopt this amendment, will you refuse to give your employees a 5 percent merit increase?

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Chambers, I'd have to analyze that. I would probably give them the 5 percent merit raise, because I think that they're the most wonderful employees in the world.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Senator Wehrbein, are you still here? Senator Wehrbein. All right, as you come to the mike, the same question for you. If we adopt this amendment, would you refuse to give your employees a 5 percent merit increase?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This is treason, but I would...yes, I would.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You would refuse to give it to them.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is it because you think they're not worth it?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think it's fair to deny them what you think they're entitled to?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No, because we each have different standards, and as I may get into this we have 49 different standards for our merit, and that's...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, I'm talking your standard is that a person is entitled to something, that something is available to give them, but you will refuse to give them that to which they're entitled.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I don't consider it should be automatic, no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, we're not making it automatic.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, you are, if you say we can give up to 5 percent and you automatically give it, it becomes automatic.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think your employees are worth more