

than one and a half percent merit increase?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Sometimes yes, sometimes no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: At this point, what do you think?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Would you give it to them, if we adopt this amendment?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No, not automatically, no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It's...thank you. You know, this is like the story of the little red hen. Some of us do all of the hard work, the others refuse, just as when I was trying to get us our expenses paid, there were people who opposed that. But they all accept the expense check now that they get during session. There are others of us who will push for those things that we think are just, regardless of the criticism. And some will be able to go back to their constituents and say, I voted against this, I voted against that, but they take the benefits of it. And the story of the little red hen was she found this grain of corn or wheat, planted, nobody wanted to plant, nobody wanted to water, nobody wanted to cut it, nobody wanted to thrash it, nobody wanted to grind it into flour, nobody wanted to bake the bread. But when she baked it and the bread came out smelling deliciously, and she said, who will eat the bread, all those who answered the question in the negative when she said, who will help, suddenly said, I will eat the bread. And she said, no you won't, I'll eat it myself. This is one of those issues where I'm not like the little red hen saying, no you won't give the increase. It's there for you to give to your employees, even though we bear the heat of the day,...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...even though we do the hard and arduous work, even though we're willing to accept the criticism, if criticism would come. And you'll sit back, you'll make political points, be able to go to your constituents and show them how frugal you are, and yet be able to stay in good with your employees by granting them that which you, on the floor, indicate they're not entitled to. I hope that in justice we will adopt this amendment and maintain for another year what we