

the intent of the Legislature that the cafeteria stay open in its present form no matter what, even if it's at a loss of a hundred thousand and increasing throughout the years. We don't care. There's no other better option out there. What the Appropriations Committee is saying is that we like the program. We like it because we put General Fund money in to keep it going in its present way, but we're not closing the door that there might be a better way that we can enhance vocational rehabilitation, do a better job and improve the delivery of systems that we have. There might be a better way. We are concerned. We are going to watch. If the Dierks amendment were not agreed to, the money would still be there. The Appropriations Committee and fiscal staff and other senators will be watching to see to make sure that other options are, in fact, improving vocational rehabilitation, and if we do not agree with the possible solutions, we will then oppose those solutions, but to close the door and say we're not even going to look at other possibilities, in my judgment, is not a good procedure at this time.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And, Senator Schimek, do you still need? Senator Schimek, I'd yield the rest of my time.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. I guess just a couple of questions to finish up. Is the Appropriations Committee committed to spending \$143,000 if the program changes, or is that open to negotiation too.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Right now we're committed to 143,000 unless somebody would take it out of the budget, out of the proposed budget with 25 votes, it's there. The next biennium everything starts over again, but we don't even know who is going to be on the committee next year for sure, but if the same people are on the committee, there is a strong commitment for that vocational rehabilitation program.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay, thank you. I think I know what the problem is here. If you had come to us and said, we think that this program could be operated better and here is the alternative...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.