

front of us, and my fear is, is that what this becomes is another way to keep individuals from being paid their unemployment benefits which they're due and owed. And who is going to provide these reemployment services? Is this another cost that we're going to pick up at the state level? Is it a cost that's going to fall on the employer, the job search assistance, the other types of reemployment services that may be established? I mean, I guess I would just like to see what the criteria is going to be, for once, before we pass a piece of legislation and then turn it over to any department, whether it be the...and I'm not picking on the Department of Labor that just happen to be the folks that are spelled out here. Commissioner Dolan is a fine individual. I'm sure that this is something to keep us in compliance with the federal law and to make sure that, you know, we don't lose federal funds, but that's also something that I thought was going to change here in the not too distant future in terms of federal mandates...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...with regard to how money is going to be spent and the burden on the state to pass these types of pieces of legislation. And, again, Senator Abboud, I'm not directing my comments at you. I appreciate the work you do as Chairman of the committee and the fact that you're bringing the bill on behalf of the Department of Labor. My concern lies with the whole process that we follow here from time to time on a number of these pieces of legislation. We pass authorizing legislation and we turn over the implementation through rule and reg to a department and then we never see it again. We never see it again until we get a complaint from a constituent or constituents and we need to bring in a rules...a statute change in order to counteract rules and regs that we never had an opportunity to look at and that, for all intents and purposes, don't mirror what the intent of the Legislature was when they passed the bill. In this case, my concern is that people are going to be denied benefits by a rule and reg that we don't see, and that is the real problem I see with LB 240. Why not have the rule and reg incorporated...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...into the statute before we pass it? Thank you, Madam President.