

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...for over a year. To this date, we don't have this information and if you all think it's not important that there be job availability information, you'll vote against the amendment. If you think it's unnecessary to talk about the types of jobs, the levels of pay and benefits, then you'll vote against this amendment, but we thought it was important enough to put it in the bill last year to serve notice of what it is we intend to try to do when we talk about welfare reform. We never said our goal is to just throw people off assistance so they can be out there floundering. We kept saying employment, gainful employment, being in a status to pay taxes is what we're after. This amendment that I'm offering will show that we mean it. If you have any questions...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...I will answer them.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Though I share some of Senator Chambers' concerns, I'm going to ask for a germaneness ruling on this amendment. It doesn't actually amend the committee amendments, it's to the bill. I think it would be more appropriate there.

SPEAKER WITHEM: And that is...you're raising the question of germaneness. You're asking that the Chair rule that this not be in order and your rationale is...

SENATOR WESELY: Is that it doesn't amend the amendments, it amends the bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You say this is more appropriately an amendment to the bill than it is...

SENATOR WESELY: To the main bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers, do you have a response to that?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I will begin by stating what everybody knows if they've heard me talk about germaneness. I believe it is germane. The issue has