

SENATOR ROBINSON: But your answer to my one question was you didn't say it saved money but you said it held the line so in a way it really did save money, didn't it?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, you should be able to make that point; if they're properly used, it has, yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: So you can go back and tell your constituents by using temporary help that you've actually continued to help contain the budget of the State of Nebraska then.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, to the extent that you hire part-time and temporary help in lieu of permanent full-time for efficiency and workload and that type, yeah, it definitely has, yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Why would we put a cap on it? Why would we...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Because there has...

SENATOR ROBINSON: ...put a constraint on it?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...there has been concern that there has been too much use of permanent and temporary or permanent or part-time workers, that's temporary or part-time workers in lieu of permanent workers to the extent that it was abused. In other words, they were hired for a year, laid off for two weeks, and then rehired. That we would consider an abuse because they are being used as permanent workers and not really as temporary workers. We feel that would be considered abuse.

SENATOR ROBINSON: They were working full time?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, and being...

SENATOR ROBINSON: Does this happen in industry?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, I don't know about industry. We're speaking...

SENATOR ROBINSON: Because, you know, you always hear about Wal-Mart. They always hire people part time so they don't have to pay the benefits so they don't...