

with the state receive? Will they receive, in other words, all of the benefits that a full-time permanent employee would receive?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: The SOS does not get any benefits.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Does this then signal an attitude by the state that there should be an attempt not only in state government but private industry to hire temporary employees so that benefits will not have to be paid?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, as I said earlier, I think responsibly if you have a proper use of temporary help is legitimate considering seasonal or in this case the Department of Revenue during tax season, that type of thing, that it is an appropriate use so I don't know what signal you might be thinking. We have said that if it's being used for a year, fired a week, and then rehired for another year, that is an abuse.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, let me ask you this question and it goes to policy. When these people are working in a temporary capacity for the state, should they be given insurance coverage, hospitalization in your opinion?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, in my opinion, no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Say it again.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: In my opinion, no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So if they get sick, even though they're working for the state, that's just tough. They don't have to have...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, if you're working at Mahoney State Park temporarily for the summer, I don't necessarily believe that health insurance would be available to all temporary workers over, say, a three-month period, no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You don't feel that the state would have a responsibility toward those citizens doing work for the state who would get ill if they don't have the wherewithal to provide health insurance for themselves.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: On a temporary basis?