

Social Services or the county assistance program. Is that your understanding?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I guess that's a possibility, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you don't pay it one way but you pay it for another and you lump it into a program which the state wants to cut because too many people are using those benefits now. I know our time is out and you can't answer so I won't even ask you to launch into a response to that.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Vrtiska followed by Senators Crosby, Cudaback, Maurstad, Beutler and Chambers.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. Just for the record and I certainly don't want this to appear that I'm in any way opposing this, but I just wanted it for the record. If this were not adopted, what would, in fact, happen, Senator Wehrbein?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: If this were not adopted, we would have to go back and recode into the agencies back to July 1 so that the spending authority would not be increase...would exceed it. We're trying to allow for the increase in spending authority. Once again, it's not General Funds, it's revolving funds. If we didn't do this, I'll have to go back and recode, make many of the agencies permanent employees through the year. We will lose our record, our track, of what were permanent employees and what were not for the year. Others may go outside and hire private temporary services legitimately which they can do now, but in general at a higher cost because one of the reasons SOS was initiated, the state could have its own pool more economically than going out and hiring private temporary pools. And because of the amount of recoding necessary to straighten out the whole fiscal year going back to July of '94, it would be very substantial amount of paperwork. In addition, many employees would be terminated, really, immediately because there would not be spending authority to pay those that are even on the job now. So it will...would cause several to lose their job immediately at this point.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. I just wanted...I just asked that question to get it in the record because I think it's important for the body to understand what the ramification would be, in fact, if they were of a mind not