

paying for this service via their funds, as I said before, nonpersonal service funds generally that they are paying...wherever they get this funding source, they pay into this pool so the workers may be paid, so it's kind of a circuitous route.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Are any of those funds from General Fund appropriations?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, they would be.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So this does implicate our appropriating authority as a Legislature.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It does but they already have that authority to spend within their different agency budget programs so either under a line item of temporary help or some maybe operating or perhaps even under some personal services budget item.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So if they have enough money to do it anyway, why are you asking us for a deficit appropriation?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Because it does go...we are using this special SOS at the state level to do this, an in-house temporary service if you will, and so it's for this particular service that needs the spending authority.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Would the Appropriations Committee have recommended that we allow this much money to come from this revolving fund were it not for this specific issue that you have brought to us today?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, we have routinely over the last few years granted spending authority from this fund based on good estimates. And what has happened, the estimates apparently were not that good as of January 1 and so it was increasing quite rapidly, and it was not caught, wasn't us, but it was not caught until approximately three weeks ago. Otherwise, this might have come in in January because of an increasing use of temporaries which is the issue that is being spoken to here. There is another issue. They are bringing more, for sake of documenting, more temporaries have been brought in under the SOS umbrella, if you will, for more proper documentation and auditing. So that is the reason that there has been some increase in this beyond maybe the typical rise.