

that but that's what they do, Senator Crosby, they give you a chip rather than letting you use cash. The reason is, is people treat chips much differently than they do hard cash. That's why they want you to only have chips. If you lose those chips, it's not like losing real hard cash. I could tell you the same thing is true if you're operating with cash or with food stamps. And so I'm giving you these arguments because I think this is really a discussion we need to have and we need to share everyone's opinions...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS PRESIDING

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: One minute.

SENATOR BOHLKE: ...and their...what they're thinking on this particular issue because we have not had this debate before. I think Senator Janssen brings some valid concerns. I think Senator Witek, later on, will be talking about what she thinks the direction we should go. And, actually, I recognize that eventually I think we will move in that direction. As we have that discussion, you have a chart before you that shows the costs of doing each of these. I think that should be part of this discussion, as we finally decide whether to adopt the Janssen amendment or not. And so, at this point in time, I simply say to you, let's have the discussion. Let's have a thorough discussion and understand the ramifications of doing any of these options that are now before you. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the body, it's interesting to listen to both Senator Janssen and Senator Bohlke's comments because this is an issue where I suppose the answers are as individual as the people who are going to be or currently are using food stamps or all of the other things. I guess I have to fall back, as Senator Janssen does, in probably more limited personal experience, but I have a great deal of reluctance of jumping with both feet into cashing out food stamps. We were talking about the pilot project to see how it worked or something like that. It might be...might be appropriate. It's my understanding that the major thrust between the idea of cashing out food stamps is that all of the welfare reform efforts are targeted toward moving people off of welfare and into the workplace, and that as part of that, the