

want to try this to change behaviors and do this whole kind of thing that I hear out of the people I've talked to at the Department of Social Services, we need to train these people, they always say that, you know, in this phrase, how to use their money. Well, there's people on this floor who don't know how to use their money yet and aren't balancing their checkbooks, so what are we going to do, put them into classes to train them how to do this? You know this is something to me that is more paternalistic, you know, they're going to take care of everybody and show them how to do everything and change their behaviors thinking that is wrong-headed thinking, and I won't agree with it. And I will vote for Senator Janssen's amendment to do away with it, not only because I know in a year's time this is going to be a moot discussion and we are going to hopefully go to electronic benefits transfer, and my amendment just simply says let's put in a system of how this is going to be accomplished. So it's already going to be a moot question in a year. But also because I just agree with this thinking of giving individuals cash vouchers...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ...for many different reasons. Number one, it's not going to be cost-effective. If you're going to hire more people and the reason is going to be to help people learn how to use real cash, people know how to use real...my kids know how to use real cash, at least they do it pretty well, better than I can afford to keep up with them on. But it's something I think people already know how to use cash, that isn't what this is about, food stamps are about helping people buy food, people who for the time being can't afford it, and that's what the whole program was about and that's why we implemented it at the federal level, and that's what it will continue to be. And if we can get to a point where we use electronic benefits transfer in order to deliver that, that's what is going to happen. And I think it will be more efficient and more effective and we will be able to have more tracking throughout this system and hopefully less fraud in the system and take care of some of these concerns that we have. But I don't think you're going to change any of that with changing it from one paper, which is a food stamp paper, to cash, which is a paper. So I will be voting for Senator Janssen's amendment and I kind of am amazed at some of the comments...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.