

complex, particularly as federal funds begin to dry up more and more as the federal government continues to cut back on their spending in their quest to balance the budget.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And if we don't change how we do things, and that is maybe we're going to have to spend longer days dealing with the issues and taking more time on it and going through all the amendments and then moving on and using the cloture to truly stop delaying tactics, I think that we are harming ourselves as an institution. And I'd like again for people to evaluate what we did today. Did we stop a filibuster? No, it was a participatory debate, dialogue going on between all members of the Legislature, all across the board. What we did is we supported a group from the outside, from the Governor's office who said, we don't want to hear you debate anymore, we don't want to talk about any of those amendments, let's just move the bill to move the bill. And I really think we got to think about that. Thanks.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Bohlke, do you wish to close on the bill?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Madam President, members. As I said, I do think, especially on this last point, that we had good debate. I think that Senator Beutler earlier, on earlier debate brought forward some of the waivers and we had some of that discussion. I've heard what Senator David Bernard-Stevens said, I...you know, I don't think the calling the question took a great deal of time, Senator Bernard-Stevens. I think your amendments on the opening of the bill probably took a great deal of time on Senator Crosby's amendment, if you recall. And as Senator Crosby said, she didn't intend to have that take a lot of time, and, in fact, when you filed those amendments, I think we took about two hours, if I recall. And so, you know, I don't think it was us calling the question. If we wanted to keep time and how much time that took as opposed to how much time those amendments took, I would have a different point of view than you. And so I would just like to thank the members, I would like to thank the level of debate and discussion, especially on the food stamps. Senator Chambers, thank you for your perspective. I told you I wanted your input on that. Senator Janssen, other people who really had some concerns with that, I think we demonstrated that when that happens, and I hope that's