

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, Senator Wehrbein, can I ask you a question, if I may. I don't understand enough about this.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: To the extent that one might be unable to estimate these kinds of expenses, I assume it's a legitimate item for a deficit appropriation to some extent perhaps, but do you happen to know off hand, and I know this is kind of ridiculous to ask you about such a small expenditure in a subprogram right at the moment, but is there not an appropriation made in election years for the Secretary of State to cover these kinds of expenses? And why should it develop that there's \$140,000 of publication expenses that are coming through a claims process from your perspective?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I really would have to look back at the record. I'm familiar with it, but I haven't boned up on it this morning. This is probably something that I think Senator Abboud has it right. It was filed a little bit late. Some of these expenses are difficult to anticipate, and I can't recall exactly the timing on this, so I really need to look it up, if you want the official record on this, Chris. But it simply came in, it apparently was not estimated correctly, so it's come in as a deficit. And it might be a matter of opinion as to which is the best way to handle it. What you're thinking is it should be more correctly estimated, since you know it's a printing expense.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well this is an agency expense, I mean to me at least.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yeah.

SENATOR BEUTLER: It's not like a citizen out there making a claim, almost all these are citizens making claims against the state of one type or another. Then all of a sudden we have an agency who simply either didn't properly estimate or has an off-budget item, so to speak, coming through the claims process.