

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And Maximus discovered it while discharging this contract for managing the Medicaid program. They're being paid for that. Then they come over here under their contingent fee contract and say, we found this money for the Medicaid program, I know we have a contract and you're paying us, but we also want 9 percent of what we found pursuant to our contingent fee contract. Did anybody on your committee or your legal staff ask that question or explore that issue that you know of?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I...I don't know the answer to that at this point.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Before going to the next speaker, Senator Janssen has as his guests today, under the south balcony, Kathy and Ron Bauer from Sacramento, California. Will you please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being here. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Senator Chambers, Madam President, members of the body, Senator Chambers, you used the word "rooked", that the Appropriations Committee rooked this body in terms of our discussion of the SOS funding and so I want to go through once again, as we did the last time we talked about this bill, the actions of the Appropriations Committee in terms of the funding for SOS, and I'm not talking about Maximus right now, I think that they're two very separate issues. We are talking about SOS because of the kind of questioning that was raised by the Appropriations Committee. The Appropriations Committee has used this process to highlight the abuses that we had heard about. We were the ones that revealed the lack of oversight and control on the part of DAS for this program, and now we are coming to the body to...with the only solution that we think protects the employees that we have and is the right thing to do. And in terms of the Maximus contract and the Medicaid managed care, I have been told, and I believe this to be true, that there is a total separation of functions in Maximus between the part that does Medicaid managed care and the part that is the contingent fee part of it, but I really cannot speak strongly enough once again that I have great faith in the way that the Appropriations Committee has approached the SOS funding and I would strongly urge you to take Senator Wehrbein's lead and vote to advance this bill.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Brown. Mr. Clerk, do you have a priority motion?