

paid in accordance with correct practice. This is not Maximus. I think we all have some feeling for the many issues involved there, and that bill will come. This is not the 3.1 million dollar appropriation for SOS in the upcoming budget which someone may make a motion to strike. That probably would eliminate the SOS program. What happened here I think is worth reflection. It was this body's committee, and I view the Appropriations Committee as being a committee of this body doing work for this body. It was the committee of this body that first said this doesn't make any sense, something is wrong here. This doesn't mathematically calculate and we inquired and we inquired and ultimately learned that, yes, what really needed to happen, to be open and honest and aboveboard was to have a deficit appropriation but it was late in the process. We had a hearing. We persisted in our notion on behalf of this body. Some of us were individually considered unworthy and labeled as such in the course of the process. We put all that aside. We brought the facts to light. We required compliance with the procedures established by law and we bring before you a deficit appropriation. We forced it out, we bring it, it's yours to authorize, yours to approve and to say no, as we said no. We won't let anybody do any recording. We won't have any fun and games with accounting. This will be done correctly and when you overspend your budget and when you have a deficit, you engage in the deficit process and you come before the committee and you come before the body and you say you have a deficit, but we do care about the people and we do want them to get paid. I urge the body to decline the motion to indefinitely postpone.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes, Madam President, colleagues, Senator Wehrbein, would you yield to a question?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR ABOUD: Senator Wehrbein...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR ABOUD: I guess I'm going to try to put it in a nutshell exactly how I feel about this issue and, I don't know, maybe I'm speaking for a number of other members that are not a part of the Appropriations Committee. The specific question is, how can you have a hiring freeze in this state, but yet continue