

these other people and people do get ill and they have no coverage by this state. I thought we would be the only category of state employees in Nebraska who would not be provided insurance, but when there are those who did not seek that job by way of election but who must work and they came to the work for the state and they cannot even get insurance, that's a program that I think is not good. And what Senator Brashear has mentioned is something that I had intended to consider but I still haven't made up my mind and that's whether or not we shouldn't just abolish this entire concept of temporary state employees, or if we're going to have it, then we define it differently, not where a person comes to work, they work today and whatever they earn they get and then they're on their way. There would be some kind of insurance coverage at a minimum. That's what I would want to see and I know that if we talked about establishing a new category of employee called temporary and it would last for a certain period of time and that person could be rehired in that capacity, the state employees wouldn't want it, and if we didn't give benefits, I wouldn't want it. But I think there is a lot of consideration that we need to give to how we do business. It's not enough in my mind to say that something is going to cost less money than it did formerly. They call that saving money. There is such a thing as a price and there is such a thing as a cost. We pay the price when we give these people the money, the cost is borne by those who are exploited and put in a disadvantageous position and then taken advantage of because the state knows it can do it. I don't think that is a principled position for the state to take. I know that this bill is going to advance. I know that my colleagues feel that they have a pistol to their head and talking about paper trails and everything else they talk about means nothing to me. My idea...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...is to make a clean cut now and whatever preceded that cut is a thing of the past. We won't have to repeat this argument in the future and perhaps face the same situation talking about paper trails and we've got to give employees who have worked this money. What you're really doing is dealing with agencies which don't care either for the Legislature or these people they hire as temporary employees. I'm going to vote against the advancement of this bill and because of that, when time comes for the vote, I want a machine vote.