

not filled for a period of time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And what is that period of time?

SENATOR BROMM: It can vary from...from, you know, depending on how long it takes to fill that vacancy, a month, two months, 3 months would not be unusual, apparently.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So the meaning of vacancy, based on the way you understand it and the way it's envisioned in your amendment, is like saying my seat in the Legislature right now is vacant because I'm not sitting in it. Even though I remain a member of the Legislature, the fact that I'm not sitting in that seat means it's vacant, and here's what I'm trying to get through...get to by using that example. The mere fact that a person is not occupying that position doesn't mean that the position itself will go away. Do you agree with that, at least?

SENATOR BROMM: Yeah, I don't think it would go away, in most cases.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, now do you think using the maximum amount of prudence in trying to act with as much haste as is prudent to fill a position it could take more than a month to fill it?

SENATOR BROMM: It sure could.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But if you declare that to be a vacancy then the money that would go to...for that position would have to be taken away under your amendment, wouldn't it?

SENATOR BROMM: If they save that money, right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And could we really call it a saving if we know that the position is to be filled, it needs to be filled but the time is going to have to be spent trying to find somebody to fill that position?

SENATOR BROMM: Well, yes, it's a savings. You have administrators who are trying to fill the position who are being paid for their time to try to fill the position. I mean, I...I'm...I think it's a circular argument. It's a savings because no one is working for that particular period of time.