

in nine years, it goes with that about the mandated increases that we have and it's one of the reasons we have a 5 percent increase in the budget and we're going to get hit over the head by the Governor for some of the things we're doing. These are the kind of issues that bring that on. But if I feel the welfare bill could go through in some form, not to everyone's liking because it never works, then I would contribute this part of it to that. I will agree in this case to doing something about it and I would hope through, as we move through that we can find consensus on many of these points and come out with some form of welfare bill, welfare reform bill. Whether you like that terminology or not, I don't know, but I think it's time we move on some of these issues. We have several coming up that I think are important and I think we all, I'm not sermonizing, I know you don't like a sermon, but I think that we ought to try to move forward on some of these issues and get it solved. It's getting down to the time that we should do it. So I will accept the 60 to 75 percentile. Some might think it's silly now. I think it's important we have something in this area this year that are in many of the parts of Senator Bohlke's amendments. And I see no reason we can't move through some of these and have legitimate debate and move along and that's my contribution to this. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Your light is next on, I assume you do not wish the time at this point?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I've said enough.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Hall, Beutler and Witek.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I appreciate everything Senator Wehrbein said and I can accept at face value his statement that it's difficult for him to do this, but see there are a lot of difficult issues in this bill and I have to deal with every one of them and I intend to. I have no choice. I cannot say on a bill that might have 20 components that I will what is called compromise on this one so that 19 others can slide through. I will never agree to do that. I think the 60 percent floor is too low. I'm just glad that I offered an amendment that force some discussion that brought us to the point where something is going to be done in the way of providing a floor. If I just sat on my rear end and said this