

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So they've got...

SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...in the Governor's veto, not in the appropriations bill, but the Governor's veto treated...took out and funded salaries at a 3 percent level across all state agencies.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So how will this amount that we are going to pay the judges be made up?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Well, the same way, although they won't be able to eliminate judges, they would either have to find some savings by reducing the number of employees within that agency, or more than likely make up that difference through the operations side of their budget.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I wanted...I wanted to see if Senator Pedersen was here. Does that mean any employees who work within the judicial system could be terminated in order to make money available for the judges, such as probation officers?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: That would more than likely be an exaggeration. More than likely because of the dollar amount within this agency. The incentive would be for the administrator to find the difference in the operations side, as opposed to affecting the number of personnel.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And since the time is almost out, I want to tell you I appreciate your help.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Will. The question has been called. Do I see five hands. I see five hands. The question before you is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Debate ceases. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers to close on his amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Madam President and members of the