

is a prohibition against that. I don't think that would be a reason to do it. Senator Brown, I know that you've talked to a number of individuals. I'd yield you the rest of my time if you care to address any of the other issues.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Brown, there's two and a half minutes.

SENATOR BROWN: Well, one of the things that people are concerned about is what the model might be, and I keep saying that I want to stick to what my argument is, which is to give us the flexibility, don't figure out what the model is right now. But I would say in response both to Senator Chambers' amendment and to some of the questions that have been raised, that we do have models in other states for what happens. A number of states have eliminated or restructured their public utilities or public service commissions in the last few years. The most recent and most notable is Tennessee, which did it last year. It was considered by their media as the most significant accomplishment of their new governor and their legislature for that year, and what they did was to have some activities of the public service commission that were clearly within the purview of other agencies transferred to those...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BROWN: ...agencies, and they left an agency whose primary focus is telecommunications. They have a few...a few other activities for that agency, but I do believe that we have models for states, and a number of the states that looked at restructuring their public service commission or their public utilities commission have also looked at other kinds of restructuring that might involve really carefully looking at the responsibilities of some of the elected officials that they have in the state. And in Texas, that meant that they eliminated their auditor and some other positions, and a number of states have looked at whether some of those positions need to be elected or appointed. But it runs against the grain of our populist notion but some of the states that have entered into those kinds of discussions have found some significant savings and also some...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR BROWN: ...significant changes that allow people to