

collected your garbage had to, in fact, be a political appointee. And if the next party came...the other party came in, all of those people were thrown out. That was the spoils system, where all jobs in government came about through political appointments. A bad system. But I think we probably have overreacted to that, to the point where a Governor, and I don't care who the Governor is. I would point out that I was a strong supporter, when Kay Orr was the Governor, of allowing the Governor's Policy and Research Office to be composed of political appointees. Prior to that time it was...those were civil service appointees, except for one or two of the individuals in the office. Senator Sandy Scofield, who was a registered Democrat at that time, carried the bill, most people I think on the floor of the Legislature thought it was a good proposition and we supported it, because the people elect an individual to the office of the Governor and they expect that Governor to be able to deliver, to be able to carry forth on campaign promises, and to be responsible. And if the Governor doesn't deliver on those, then the people get a chance to send the Governor out. We in Nebraska have become so enamored with this concept of civil service and career government employees, and they do a good job, they do a good job in carrying out the policy. But those individuals charged with the implementation, the development of the policy and are responsible directly to the Governor for seeing that those initiatives are carried out really ought to be answerable to the Governor. It's not an evil to have the Governor be able to, in the agencies where the Governor is expected to be held accountable for whether that agency delivers on what is promised, for that Governor to have some individuals that are answerable to that individual. I mean I can't think of anything more ludicrous than electing a Governor based on a set of policies, holding that Governor accountable, and then not giving the Governor any tools for that. So Senator Wesely is giving you a factual interpretation that we're not radically expanding the number of exempt individuals. What I'm doing is trying to enter into the argument and the discussion the consideration, even if we were it wouldn't necessarily be bad, because we don't want Governor held responsible for policies and then not having anybody there who they can have any direction over. So, for both of those reasons, I think the Witek amendment is improper and I would urge you to oppose it.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Beutler.