

double the management. And I'm saying we should keep it where it is, even though Senator Wesely has juggled the numbers there, and looking at 1323, the amount that they can have now is any agency over 1,000 people can now have 5 individuals exempt. And I do have the number, Senator Beutler, and anyone else who would want to look at this. If you followed the structure, as it is now, they get fifteen exempt positions, they are only using, at this time, fourteen. If you combine them all together and change...and allow for the over 1,000 number, that's where they get the 30 positions, because in unity they become the larger agency with more exemptions. And that's what their, if you can call it, reasoning is. Now I guess you got to come back to the need for these individuals. I find it very curious that senators are saying, well you might have management there that's not doing a good job, you might need to get rid of them, you might need, you know, this kind of thing. You know my reasoning is, if this is a good thought for management, why isn't it good all the way down? If we have personnel who's not doing their job, we should be able to get rid of them. And if these...if the structure we have in the state of Nebraska now is preventing that, as some senators have said it is doing so, then we need to get rid of that structure, that's the sensible thing to do. But that's not what these senators are saying. They're not saying that... They're saying that we have problems in management and we need to be able to be flexible about those. But the flexibility only goes so far as management, it doesn't go into the workforce any deeper than that, carefully stepping around the employee union. So their reasoning is very hallow and very shallow, and only goes as deep as management in their reasoning for wanting to have this flexibility. So I agree with Senator Beutler that I think that they already have opportunities within the existing structure to make whatever changes for mismanagement or cause that they would have for these individuals. And doubling the number of managers that they will have in this agency, that isn't necessarily going to make it more efficient or effective, in fact it's going to pull away monies for front-line workers who usually are involved in that service part of these service agencies. And to me that policy decision should be reviewed and thought about before we just, through one bill like this, say, yeah, go ahead and double your management...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.