

SENATOR WESELY: If we don't make this change, if we keep...

SPEAKER WITHEM: I mean that's the debate right, Senator Witek's amendment takes us from 30 to 15,...

SENATOR WESELY: That's right.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...and we're talking then about 15 out of 6,000.

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah.

SPEAKER WITHEM: We're talking about 15 individuals who can help carry out the policy that we elect the Governor to carry out, as opposed to 6,000 people that will contin...or...

SENATOR WESELY: Right.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...5,085 individuals who will continue to enjoy whatever sort of job protection that they have previously carried out.

SENATOR WESELY: I think the figure is like...the last figure I saw on the employees is 5,900 something, so there would be 5,885 versus 5,900 would be essentially...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay, thank you very much. I think that's an important piece of information. With that, Senator Wesely, your light was on and I think you missed your turn to speak. I would yield the rest of my time to you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wesely, there are three minutes remaining.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President. I do think Senator Withem makes a good point on this, that if we're talking about 6,000 employees, 15 of those which have a direct link into the directors, essentially these are individuals hired by the directors to carry out policy and insure that the agency is responsive, I think, not only to the Governor, but essentially responsive to the Legislature, in my view, to try to accomplish changes in systems. But I understand the concerns that Senator Witek is expressing and Senator Beutler. I just have a