

different view on that. I have talked to Senator Beutler about perhaps some other approaches to this, and that would make sense to me. But the logic of what we're trying to do is actually very consistent with what the current statute is. This is not like the other bill that I had, which doubled the amount of exempt positions for each category. We are taking essentially the fact that there are 6,000 employees, and currently if you have over 1,000 you get 5, so we took the 5 times the 6,000, which comes out to 30, and that's why we use that figure. So we actually were just trying to have a hold-harmless, in a sense. Well the problem is the way the figures work out it looks like it's worse than it is because of the way the categories play out and the way the authorization works out. And so I'd be willing to talk to Senator Beutler I know has got some ideas on this. And perhaps we can find a way to work through this with some consistency. But I would argue, I would argue that we in fact have a good cause to double the number, not only for these agencies, but across state government. I work in the health and human services field, that's where I've spent my time. I've seen first hand what happens when you have individuals and positions of importance that will not respond to a desire to make change. You have disruption, you have inaction, you have problems, and you have a personnel system that protects that. It's impossible, in some cases, to intervene and remove those individuals. Now arguing...Senator Witek has been very concerned about state government responsiveness. Senator Beutler and others who are arguing...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...this point, what I would argue back is if you want a bureaucracy to respond to the public, if you want a bureaucracy that is accountable then having more exempt positions, as few as they are in state government that we're talking about right now, in view of the total number of employees, it's...I don't even know what percent it is, it's just a minuscule amount of employees. Still though you have individuals who have some accountability, who are vulnerable in a sense in that if they don't perform their job they're not going to have that job. And that sort of responsiveness is what you find in a lot of cases in the private sector. You don't have all these protections involved there. And as a result you have a responsive company, in many cases, in the private sector where they know if the employee doesn't respond they may not