

Senator Chambers.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Wesely, are you nearby? I want...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator...Senator Wesely.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Oh. I will...I will pose a question as you're coming to the mike. Isn't it true that, if we brought together all of the people who have worked on this bill, that they collectively, making their best estimates and even guesses, cannot assure us of any "savings" that will result? Is that true?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: The term "assure" is the one that's in question. They have made estimates that there can be savings. To assure us of savings would presume a plan in place, and they don't want to make that presumption.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, although... Now you know the Rubicon was a river.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, it was, is.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, you want to cross the river without having a boat or any means to get from one side to the other. Isn't that what we're being asked to do when there is no plan? We're being asked to cross the Rubicon without having a plan for getting from the bank, on which we find ourselves, to the bank on the other side of the river. Isn't that true?

SENATOR WESELY: Well, ultimately we can...whatever we do, we can undo. I mean, let's face it, Senator Chambers, if you're unhappy we can reenact and all the statutes and reverse the whole process next session. So that would be ultimately an authority we have. So I feel like we still have a boat, if we need it. But I'd rather not have that option very handy.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wesely, here's what I'm trying to get