

sector, they lose their jobs, or they retrain. This doesn't talk about any of those areas, retraining or changing the direction or any of that, it just says we are going to circle our horses here, nobody is going to get at us, and we're going to continue everything exactly the same way, except we're going to look like we're doing some actual restructuring here. It's really not...it's not the direction that I want to take. I think it's seriously in the opposite direction of what most of the voters and taxpayers would like to see us going. We spent an inordinate amount of time on this bill discussing the concepts in the bill itself, but we, now that we are realizing it's really just fluff, we might as well discuss some fluff in other directions, and that's privatization, go in some of those directions and instruct the people who are going to be looking at this concept to look at these concepts that...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ...I think will be much better for the state of Nebraska, for the economy in Nebraska. You know we've had some very disappointing and disturbing news on the economy here in the state of Nebraska, we do have some problems. Even the economists at the national level have said that we are having some problems. At best we may be going into some type of recession here and overall in the state of Nebraska I believe will go in that direction, too. And you're still restructuring this with billions of dollars of tax money, not trying to save any money, not knowing how the economy is going to be affected, making some tremendous policy decisions without, since the Maurstad amendment wasn't adopted, without any input from the Legislature. These were already, when we're not here in session, this will already have begun. And I just can't say enough that this is a very dangerous policy decision that you are making here today on this bill. At least the Jensen amendment offers us an opportunity to involve...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR WITEK: ...some of our concepts. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Witek. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Madam President, members of the body, Senator Jensen, could you answer a couple questions for me?