

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It is baby boomers, yes...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...we are having a slack.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But to go back to this issue, and I am through asking you questions. Thank you, Senator. (Laughs) Senator Avery is messing with me. Senator Wehrbein, I ask you these questions because you are the chairperson of the committee and not necessarily that you are hostile toward the program. There has to be a point person or a stalking horse and that happens to be you.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Senator Chambers, because I get so much extra pay, I accept that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You almost choked me on that one. Members of the Legislature...for those who don't know, he gets not a nickel more than the rest of us. And he goes...and he suffers a lot more abuse. My feeling on a program such as this is we have to break it away from everything else in the budget as we should some of these other items and view them on an individual basis. Is there a serious problem in this society? Does the state have an obligation to address that problem? Are the means available to address it more effectively than is the case now? And I say "yeah" to all of them. Rape and domestic violence are serious problems in this society and they invade households throughout and across the spectrum of this society.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And I believe that when we talk about crime and how terrible it is, it is only for political purposes, I insist, unless when we come to a program like this where we can help victims we show some concern. If any program merits an expenditure of \$73,000, this program does. All of these education bills, building programs, prisons, everything else takes top billing. This one is entitled to our support and I do support it.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Crosby.