

Senator Brashear told me, whether or not this company that's withholding this money has to have spent it all by the time they file their income tax return. I just don't see it working that way, and I don't see anything in the bill that makes it work that way, so he can continue to enlighten me. So although he indicated that he doesn't know the answer for sure, but it would be governed by other things, including an agreement, I want to ask him this question. Senator Brashear, is it possible that this money that's withheld does not have to be spent or expended by a certain period of time in order for it to be claimed by the company?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: It can't be claimed unless it's spent, it's a dollar-for-dollar relationship, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Let me ask you this, if we're talking about training programs and the Union Pacific already has a training program in place, could that money being spent for that training program be considered to qualify as an expenditure from this money that they're withholding from the employee? What is there in the bill that says all of these must be new programs, paid for exclusively by the money that's withheld, or that it cannot be a program already in place?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Chambers, this bill, in and of itself, does not regulate all aspects of this. It (inaudible)...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...the acts clearly provides for an agreement which is entered into between state government and the employer. That's all a part of establishing the parameters and the rules under which things will be done.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, under an agreement it could be worked out that the company can hold this money back, if they choose to, if that's a part of the agreement.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: That's not consistent with the purpose of the legislation. If...the legislation talks in terms of your getting a credit for the money spent on job training, safety and the like, the things that are specified here.