

a discussion that Mrs. Hansen had continued to work as a union steward after she had resigned and that she'd also run for an office after she had resigned. Well, she had resigned but the dues had continued...were continued to be taken out. As a matter of fact, she was a union steward from 1988 on. She didn't run for this position after she resigned. She was a union steward at the time that she resigned and the dues...and I passed around a little circular or a paper that tells you what the opinions of the Attorney General, the Ombudsman and the State Auditor were and they all have said that the state does owe this money back to Mrs. Hansen. There's another issue that clouds this and that's the fact that the union is saying that Mrs. Hansen has run for office and continued her action in the union, but they had never...this is a separate issue. This is not an issue that has to do with whether she should be refunded the money. The money, as far as I'm concerned, should come back to her because she had resigned early enough and then asked for these funds to come back, not to be taken out of her salary. The issue about whether she was a union steward or whether she was running for another office in the union has nothing to do with whether this claim should be paid. I would urge that you take a hard look at this. I think that the \$23 a month is due this lady and then this has gone on for a number of months. Total bill I believe is 785 dollars and maybe 89 cents or something like that and it's my opinion that this should be honored. With that, I'd relinquish the time to whoever wants to talk about it.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Dierks, there are no other lights on. Did you wish to say anything else in closing? Oh, we have...we have lights on now.

SENATOR DIERKS: Okay.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all. This is not a real easy scenario for us to sort through, in my estimation. The Business and Labor Committee did hear the claim. It had been denied by the Claims Board and, in the absence of anyone testifying in the hearing on that denial other than Ms. Hansen and her attorney, in Exec Session later, in attempting to give the benefit of the doubt to Ms. Hansen, the committee decided to amend that denied claim, which was not