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extent to the more moderate income, depending on how you view the matter here on this particular bill, but nobody would argue but that it's a subsidy program. And the way that it functions, it's a subsidy program whereby the government owns the assets, and if you wanted to use a colored word, you would say it's a socialistic kind of approach to welfare in the sense that the government owns the asset, and the question I'm getting around to and would ask is we subsidize housing through ownership and controlling the price through ownership, why don't we do that with food? Why don't we buy some grocery stores and control the price of food to the low income by owning the grocery stores? Why don't we buy a pharmaceutical company and control the prices of pharmaceuticals to the low income by owning a pharmaceutical company? Here's how I think we get into these messes and, to me, you all are not going to agree with this but, to me, there's a simpler progression of things and the simple progression of things, to me, is simply this. We have an economic system. That economic system is...is refined and defined and controlled and manipulated by government, always has been since the day we created this thing called a corporation. And one of the ways that we try to assure that everybody in the economic system has enough resources to buy the things that they need is by giving money to the low income, and we do that in one of two ways. The simplest way, of course, is simply defining a minimum wage and figuring out what people need to live, including what they need for housing; giving a minimum wage, not buying assets, but giving to an individual the money that they need and then they choose from among the assets owned by private people and select among those assets. The free market operates from the point that we give them...give them the money in one way or another. So a minimum wage is a simple way, without government being all involved in all of this, to effectuate that purpose. But we don't like the minimum wage, some people, for a variety of reasons and so we still want to help those people, so we slipped over into a welfare system that was still designed to give money to an individual for the purposes that they need, to satisfy the variety of their needs, and then...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...in some cases, we decided that they couldn't handle it very well themselves and the money needed to