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be spent for a specific purpose, so we add food stamps that could only be spent for food as opposed to money generally that could be spent for anything. But still, we're giving to the individual and allowing them to choose the food store, for example. But somehow then we even went further, with regard to housing, and we didn't increase the minimum wage to effectuate their ability to buy housing and we didn't give money through the welfare program in...by means of food stamps. We could have given housing stamps or a housing allowance, for example, that could only be spent for housing, but somehow we got into this program of actually buying assets, socializing assets, and making it cheaper by controlling the asset end instead of using the free market and simply...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...giving money, if that's what's needed, to the individual, and I'd like to talk about that some more.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment to the committee amendments, Senator Brown, AM1654. I have a note, Senator, you'd like to withdraw AM1654 and offer AM1709, is that correct?

SENATOR BROWN: Correct.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Without objection, so ordered. Senator Brown, you're recognized to open on AM1709. (AM1709, Legislative Journal pages 1933-1937.)

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there are three aspects to...to the committee amendments that I felt needed to be clarified a little bit more and a little bit differently than the way that the committee dealt with them. The first is Section 20 that has to do with the tax-exempt status of property that is owned by the public housing authorities. The second has to do with the submission of agency plans to the local governing authorities, and the third has to do with the direct lending provisions. Much time has been spent, especially on the last two issues, in working with