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the missed opportunities that have existed for bargaining...

SENATOR ENGEL PRESIDING

SENATOR ENGEL: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...or as they may be here. I will say this, Senator Beutler, this piece that's on the table, the letter you got from the law firm didn't say we agree to these terms. We'll meet and confer and accept these terms. They said let's sit down. And when that happens, the conversation is, as you know, of whatever the two parties want to bring up. And, historically, that is, you know, you want some things, we want some things, too, and let us add to the list of things. I know you want to pay employees more. As a matter of fact, we can think of a whole lot more employees who want that as well. What you don't have in that letter that says we will do that right now. What it says is let's sit down and talk about state employees, and that's an open-ended process with a lot of demands. And I got to say, I've made my value choice. I support LB 85. I can understand why others wouldn't. I can understand a bracket motion. I can understand a red vote. There are other values at play. I've made my value choice.

SENATOR ENGEL: Time. The Chair recognizes Senator Synowiecki, and, Senator Synowiecki, do you want to talk on the amendment or the bill?

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Senator Engel, I just have a question for Senator Landis, so I guess with regard to the bill. Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator Landis, you present to us that there is a lot of difficulties in remedying this problem through the negotiating process. It's too broad. We're going to encompass all the state employees in this potentially.

SENATOR LANDIS: Gosh, I'm not sure I accept that characterization at all. I think I've said it is possible. I've also said that there are difficulties. But the characterization that it is impossible, no, I don't think I've made that. I think I've been much fairer in my characterizations than the way you've characterized me.