

Senator Wehrbein and from the Appropriations Committee because we really have spent a great deal of time. We've been very thorough in this. I think some of our questioning and some of the issues that have been raised by the Appropriations Committee have resulted in the executive order and some changes to control the SOS pool and what may be perceived as abuses.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Robinson followed by Senator Hartnett and Senator Pedersen.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I have a question for Senator Wehrbein.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: The temporary help that we hire and so forth, has that reduced the expenditures of the State of Nebraska?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That would be difficult to say that it's actually reduced the expenditures. If there is responsible proper use of those, it probably has made for a less increase in some of our labor costs, particularly in the area and where it's responsible use as where there's seasonal or temporary need of employees, you use the SOS pool just like private business would for those kind of surges in business or whatever in lieu of hiring a full-time permanent person.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Are you by this...the talks that you've had with DAS or whoever it is, have you put a lid on this or...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, this is our lid.

SENATOR ROBINSON: ...some kind of constraint or what?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This is our lid at this point via the spending authority to utilize Specialized Office Services or SOS. That's the...that's what this is. It has exceeded this particular fiscal year at this point to the tune that we need \$750,000. We are urging that to be allowed at this point through the 30th of June or this fiscal year. At that point, it will return to the old limit which would be \$750,000 less and we will look at it again next year to be sure that it has been properly done.