

these programs, what kind of system is it that we're putting in place?

SENATOR PEDERSEN: We're waiting for a fiscal note, and I am not so sure that Senator Lindsay didn't get that today.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But right now we don't know that money is available to pay for all these programs. That money will be appropriated to do this.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: That is right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, if what I said is true about us saying that the only way a person can earn good time is by being in these programs, why don't we eliminate that as a requirement to earn good time when we don't even know that the programs are going to be available, and I know nobody is listening, except you and me and maybe Senator Witek, because she looked up, okay, and Senator Dierks. But these are the kind of things...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that I think show a very lack of concern on the part of the majority of the legislators, the same few are here so I'm not trying to slight any of you all. But if everyone of you voted a certain way, we don't have 25 votes in this room. But I care about these people even though they're in prison. And I think it is terribly wrong in order to placate the public, because they say we give good time too easily, to say that the way you earn this good time is to participate in programs one through ten, and then the programs are not there. How are you going to earn good time? You can't earn it, so it's a cruel hoax and yet you can say well now they're not getting any good time because we're tough. And think about the morale, which maybe doesn't seem important, of the inmates...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...because....

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Mr. Clerk, an amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Witek would move to amend this portion of the committee amendments. (Witek amendment, FA248, appears on page 2347 of the Legislative Journal.)