

Bernard-Stevens would see a person who is in need of two crutches, walking down the street, and he deliberately would kick one of those crutches out from under the person. As Senator Wesely pointed out, this is money that would bring the program back to where it was. A crutch has been kicked out. Senator Wesely merely wants to restore the crutch. So, in a sense, we have, on the one hand, Tiny Tim, the crippled, needy child whose family lacked the means to help him. Daddy Cratchet might be working as hard as he is able to work at a job that pays as much as he is able to earn with his skills, whatever they may be. There may be a mother who is trying to work, or because the condition of the child is such that she cannot work, but who, nevertheless, is contributing all that she can. On the other hand, we have Scrooge, who says he hates Christmas because it's a yearly opportunity for people to pick a man's pocket. I don't envision what we're doing here today as picking the state's or anybody else's pocket. Although Senator Coordsen mentioned that it's transferring the dollar from somebody's pocket, I'm not equating him with Scrooge in that example, in the example that I'm giving. But if money is to be transferred from one place to another, I cannot think of a better place for it to be transferred. This amount is not going to break the budget, it's not going to break the state, and some people are saying oppose this because if you once start down the slippery slope, or if you once let the wagon get rolling, the momentum will build up and you cannot stop it, and that's an argument I hear every session when one of these noble projects comes before us, yet even when those projects are voted affirmatively, the momentum does not pick up as we were told it would. We don't find ourselves on a slipper slope from which we cannot recover, and we wind up going into the abyss. That never happens. Senator Coordsen, this is my 23rd year. By the way, let me make a comment on that. Before they had term limits, Senator Moore, you're just a baby in comparison to me, based on the amount of time you've been here or in the world. Because my district thinks so much of me I was like a man sentenced to life in the Legislature without possibility of parole. What the term limits did was commute my sentence to a term of years. So I can...I'm short-termining it,...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...Senator Coordsen, and Cap, if I go ahead and serve all the time that is available for me. And all the time that I remain here, on these types of issues I'm going to