

items. I still don't think Senator Bernard-Stevens... Senator Bernard-Stevens, I'd like to ask you a question.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Bernard-Stevens, would you respond, please.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bernard-Stevens, you have become a bone of contention here. I maintain that you would not kick a crutch from under a person who actually needs it, and Senator Hillman maintains that under certain circumstances you might. Which of us is correct?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Actually you're both correct. (Laughter.)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, because I don't have much time. Okay, I try to speak for him. The point that I was getting to is that this program should be funded, we should put this money back. An analogy to what I think I hear Senator Hillman saying is that we've got a number of thirsty people, we're not going to deal with all of the thirsty people at the same time. We're going to come upon them in a progressive manner. And we've got a huge reservoir of water that may give each one of them a drink, and it may not. But because it may not, this thirsty person that we're dealing with should not be given a drink. And then we should not give the next thirsty person a drink because we don't know how much water we'll need for those farther down the line. Then when we get half way through the list and have not given any of those a drink, then we tell those behind them, well, there may be water, but we can't give you a drink because we didn't give a drink to the others. And then each thing becomes a reason not to do anything that ought to be done. That's the way I envision it in my mind. I say that if a person has need of water, if they are thirsty, we should give them to drink. We can raise taxes if necessary. And I would rather we go through the political pain, if that's what it is, of raising taxes, should that be necessary, although this amendment will not trigger that. We should do that before we would cut these programs and hurt these people who cannot help themselves. What I would not be opposed to, Senator Coordsen, is saying this year no senator will be able to go to any of these conferences, because see I don't go to them anyway. But that is not something that I'm going to indicate. Just because I don't go