

on General File dealing with the question of who should appoint the Director of the Department of Economic Development. And as the bill came out of committee it had the commission that was established under this bill making the selection, taking that power away from the Governor. The Governor obviously didn't like that very much and on General File the amendment was adopted that gave back the firing power to the Governor and that was still not enough and he was very concerned about the situation and the unclear situation about who actually controlled the department director needed to be resolved. So we sat down with NACI, NIDA, the Governor and we worked and we met and we talked and we finally decided 40 out of the 50 states the Governor selects the Department of Economic Development Director and this body has, by and large, gone with the Governor's power to appoint the different agency heads. Now the business community didn't like that. They wanted to have more authority over that director, but at the same time it was felt that perhaps in recognition of some other activities that we'll be talking about here that it was better just to go ahead with the decision and allow the Governor that authority because the other changes in the bill improve the department, improve the situation, make that department stronger and the question of the director is one that hopefully will resolve itself. And so with agreement from the business community and the Governor, these are the amendments that we're proposing. The first and most important item again would be the Governor would have the complete authority to hire and fire the Director of Economic Development. There would be a change in terms of the deputy director. There would be one established in statute and they would have to be a professional and hopefully that would alleviate some of the concerns of the business community that somebody with some professional background be over there and so we would indicate that in the amendment. We would reduce the size of that commission from 17 members down to 9 members and make it a much more useful number instead of such a large number to take any action. The terms of those individuals would be for six years so they'd have some longevity over there. There were advisory committees that were called for in almost all the divisions that are created under this bill. This would only require two such advisory committees, Community Block Grants and Travel and Tourism. The other divisions, if they wanted to, would have the power to have committees, advisory committees, if they wish, but otherwise they wouldn't have to have one. There were some adjustments in the goals that were outlined in the bill and the strategic planning goals that are outlined as well, again, in conformity with the concerns of the Legislature and