

understanding that the 814 project has bogged down to a certain extent and that...and maybe Senator Bernard-Stevens can get back into this conversation when he comes back to the mike. And that there are some people that feel that maybe we need to go in and take a really hard look at it and that there needs to be some money appropriated to do that. I don't know if that's true or not and I'd like to hear some discussion on that because that is a project that is near and dear to my heart. So if you have any further comments on that, but my second and last question is concerning the membership of the commission and I have asked you about this I think privately. I'd just like to get it on the record. You don't have any specificity to this list of people who should be appointed to the commission and I guess I would like to know why, although I think I know that now, but just for the record, and also I would like to say that I think it's really important that we have somebody who has been involved in this 814 project on that commission.

SENATOR WITHEM: And you're giving me the rest of your time to respond to those? Yeah, I'd be happy to respond to both of those. First of all, I have absolutely no problem if you and I could develop language to amend the bill between now and Select File to make sure that it's very clear that governmental computer needs are a portion of what this commission looks at. Secondly, the language not specifying that there will be somebody representing telephone companies, somebody from the computer industry, somebody from elementary-secondary education, et cetera, et cetera was intentional. Had a meeting last fall and Senator Kerrey has had a couple of meetings since then inviting people to talk about this issue and you find as you try to decide who needs to be included in discussions and who doesn't, when you start going through the laundry list of affected groups, the room gets pretty small after a while. You'd end up with 30 or 40 people sitting in on that room very quickly and that's way too big for a commission. Secondly, I think if you start identifying people by that method you have people that are protecting turf as opposed to creating vision. Again, if people have ideas on how we can specify, how we can give the Governor some guidance on the type of people we expect to be appointed to this commission, I'd be happy to work with that kind of language, but I don't think it would be a good idea to start laundry listing individual types of people to be included. Senator Schimek, the rest of your time is back to you.