

Council with their expertise saw the desire to terminate this particular Investment Council, the Governor approved that they could be hired and that just exactly points out the problem, that the Investment Council is made up of experts, people that understand what they are doing, know the business, know the people involved and hopefully that's why they're there and that's what they're supposed to be doing. And the Governor has got many other responsibilities and other things to do and cannot take the time or doesn't have the ability to really be able to look into this and so you'll have mistakes like this happen. In addition, the Governor approved Travelers' Keystone despite the fact that Travelers had sold Keystone two months before she approved their contract. Additionally, two contracts were approved by the Governor that the portfolio advisors had recommended against and one of them being Commerce Capital, and there are other examples as well. What you find then is that now that the Governor has taken on this responsibility, it's causing confusion and difficulty as we try to move forward and make sound investment in this state. The Governor and the politics involved ought to be taken out of it and I'm going to say that now, not just because of disagreement with what Governor Orr did last year, but I frankly anticipate that there will be another Governor a year from now and I still think that under those circumstances that the next Governor also should be taken out of the process, decision-making process, and allow those that have the expertise to make the decision of how to invest this money. I think that it has worked in this manner now for a number of years. It has been a successful effort that has not resulted in difficulty and I think if they had proceeded with the plan that they had in place, I think people would have been pleased with it as well, but clearly there were those that have doubts about it and I want to get back to that particular issue.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: And not enough time to do that, but I think clearly the concept of trying to allow for individuals to make decisions about how to make the best investment for these retirement funds is what we're really talking about here and this Investment Council I think has done a good job and what they saw was that their portfolio and stocks and bonds was not diversified enough. It wasn't coming back and helping our state and our businesses and our economic development to the degree it could and it wasn't bringing in the return that they could if