

information as well, which had been denied. The public counsel or Ombudsman's office recommended that the Tax Commissioner reveal the information about bonuses paid and the Public Record Act, I think, is fairly clear about the intent of having a disclosure whenever public funds are involved. The public should be able to know how these funds are distributed and I don't think concealing payroll information is appropriate and secret bonuses are not something that we should really want in a state government. We should be for the concept of open government, for the concept that if taxpayers are paying money into state governments, they have a right to know how those dollars are being spent. There have been some recent developments in this issue and one recent development that occurred just this morning. There was an Attorney General's Opinion on this issue, which basically said that disclosure was required of fiscal records but that any information contained in the personnel files was, of course, personal and could not be disclosed. The real issue then became what about the list that apparently the Department of Revenue has of the bonus payments that were made to particular individuals? They have a printout that I have seen. I haven't seen the names but I saw the printout that was made of how these bonuses were apportioned. The Attorney General's Opinion, for some reason, said that if the list was a result of information that they obtained from the personnel files, that that list did not have to be disclosed. And from the initial comments in the newspapers, the Tax...that I read, the Tax Commissioner was going to continue with his policy of not disclosing that information and require any citizen who wanted that information to go through all the records of DAS and the volumes of printouts and things to get the information and have to make calculations to determine who or who did not get bonuses. That...this morning the Tax Commissioner met with me and also the Director of Personnel and said, as a result of this resolution, they had changed their view on this particular matter. They were, in fact, going to disclose the list of persons who received these bonuses and that that information would be made available to persons who request it. I think that is appropriate. I am appreciative that the Tax Commissioner and the Department of Personnel Director reached this conclusion. They said that they reached it in part because of this resolution and part because of reading the Attorney General's Opinion very thoroughly and very carefully and the import of that opinion. I think it is appropriate that this resolution be adopted. I do have an amendment that I would like to put on that particular resolution and I will introduce