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payment situation and said that they hoped that we discussed this, debated it...

PRESIDENT: Time is up.

SENATOR McFARLAND: ...and argued it on the floor because the department is being used for political purposes to advance tax policies that a lot of people question over there in the Department of Revenue. I can also tell you that when these initial tax changes were made, there was a person in the Department of Revenue who came to me and said, look, these tax policies don't make sense. This particular person pointed out the cliff effect that occurred, that you were exempt from paying taxes up to a certain point, then if you got above that point, then there was a dramatic increase in your state taxes. This was going to happen. This was pointed out. This person said, but I can't go public with this, I can't...I don't want my name associated with it because...

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR McFARLAND: ...I would be in trouble with it. But you can bring it out on the floor of the Legislature, which we did, and which we discussed and there was a cliff effect and, in fact, some people who earned just a little bit above what was...what would have been exempted for tax purposes, suddenly the tax provisions kicked in and they paid a fairly significant amount of state taxes for just earning slightly more amount of money and going over that exemption level where they would pay no taxes. Those are the kinds of things that have gone on within the Revenue Department.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR McFARLAND: And I think the bonus payments will exhibit that. I think if you look at them over a period of years, you will...there will be some implications that they were given to the same people year after year after year and I think it is...

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR McFARLAND: ...a policy statement we need to make, that bonus payments not only should they be disclosed and open, public should have an awareness of this so that the public can examine and the public can make a judgment for its...for

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