

whole procedure, but they didn't. Because DEC chose not to hire the additional staff, much needed additional staff in that department for all kinds of oversight on this issue, I think they contributed to the confusion that led to this claim, although I still cannot see how anyone would be confused over it. A new law was in effect. You do not have a properly filed application under the old law, you follow the new law. Using this fund to pay claims will not jeopardize the licensing process. That doesn't even come into play here. DEC is allowed to charge a developer for these expenses. They may use this rebate, these rebate funds to pay for license review expenses, but it isn't necessary when they can charge that to the developer. I will argue that using the rebate monies for payment of a license review expenses only helps lower the cost to the developer. This is a valid use of this fund. We need to send a message to the departments of this state. I've read some articles about accountability this weekend on various departments of state in this state and in other states, how the money, some of the departments have fat and are wasting money. I think this is the message we send by adopting this, that we do call for accountability in this body. If you turn this down, you're telling the Department of Environmental Control and all the other departments, you do not have to be accountable, just because we pass a law doesn't mean you have to follow it, do whatever you want. If there is an old law there in effect that you like better, follow that one. If indeed we pass some new tax laws this year, what will we do if some of the counties come up and say, well we don't like that one, we like the old one better, that's the law we're going to follow. We started this taxing process earlier on and...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: ...we didn't realize you would change the rules on us, so we're going to follow the old law. That is not a message we can afford to send at this time. Many of our departments obviously have fat to cut. Many of our taxpayers are really questioning us on this issue. This is the time right now to start calling for accountability from these departments. A vote for my amendment would send the message to these departments, yes, you must be accountable to us and, yes, we're going to scrutinize your process and, yes, you'd better be spending your money wisely and you'd better pay attention to what's going on to the people you are there to oversee and help, including the citizens of the school district in Johnson-Brock.