

the squawk box there was another public service commissioner sitting in the hot seat discussing the Public Service Commission. We learned a great deal, and I think there were some assumptions that have been made about the Public Service Commission that may or may not have been true as we started looking at the facts. And some of the assumptions that were made that with telephone deregulation, and with the federal government taking over more of the railroad regulation activity, that the workload was down, and therefore maybe it was time to look at the Public Service Commission as an entity with a reduced...since they had a reduced workload, and see whether or not there were some savings that could be found within that particular entity. After the hearing I think we were enlightened to find out, at least when some of the information that was brought, that even though there were these activities that reduced the workload in those areas, that we have had some other changes in activity that actually have increased the workload, and so it started becoming a bit confusing. Some of the activities in terms of the long line telephone activity, the various filing for rates with telephones with the smaller carriers who were not deregulated, and a whole proliferation of activity that we were looking at. There was also discussion of reducing the number of public service commissioners from five down to three. Personally, I found that somewhat strange in that the workload of the Public Service Commission is the same for how ever many you have, because they are the policy-making body. Now if there is a workload difference with respect to the agency in total, that ought to be looked at. Now, to sum up all of this, basically what we looked at was we found that there was a lot of confusion, a lot of misinformation, a lot of misassumptions relative to the Public Service Commission. And so the Government Committee felt that it was in order to very seriously look at the workload, the efficiency, the performance of the activity and the like that goes on at the Public Service Commission, and either from this particular study to come up with a recommendation for change, or maybe we will find that there needn't be a change. But with the information that we had it seemed like there was a great deal of rash movement in that regard. So the committee unanimously drafted this resolution, which is a study resolution, where we will look at very seriously the Public Service Commission through the use of our performance review activity that we have here within the Legislature, and let that kick into gear and see how it works and report back to us. So that's the resolution as it was drafted by the Government Committee.