

budget issue for years, there's concern about the backlog that sometimes build up in the commission and over the years their duties, of course, have been expanded significantly from when it was...when the agency was first established and so the workload has significantly changed. But then the second tier would be a more thorough, complete investigation similar to what they, in essence, as I believe I understand correctly, they do now on every charge which takes a lot of time even though it may well be understood long before...currently long before it's completed that there is perhaps no reason to pursue the charge or it could be resolved and a complete investigation would not need to be done. It retains concepts for a party to feel...aggrieved or have been...can appeal at any of these sections. Obviously, they have the right to appeal to courts if they choose to do that, at any step, but I believe that the bill, as it is being proposed now through the committee amendments will have the broad outline of making the office of the Governor more accountable, directly accountable, where now as an independent agency it is not, secondly, but the commission is retained as a concept, although in the bill current members would be replaced or that is their terms would recommence, they would be eligible for reappointment. But the concept anyway, hopefully, would result in retaining still adequate protection for those who may have a complaint or charge to file and to be investigated, but, hopefully, would help to expedite that workload while it's still protecting those individuals' rights. So, with that, I would move adoption of the committee amendment, probably the most significant thing, excuse me, yeah, the committee amendment would be, as I outlined, striking all provisions of participation in the act and anyway by the Department of Labor in retaining the commission as a separate agency with the director appointed by the Governor. I...I...if there's any balance of time, I would yield to Senator Hall, if he wishes to add anything at this point.

SENATOR CROSBY: You have about three minutes, Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President, and members, thank you, Senator Warner. I just rise in support of the committee amendments. The changes that Senator Warner outlined embody both bills, LB 850 and 886. LB 886 was introduced on behalf of the Governor. It did incorporate the transfer of the commission to the Department of Labor for purposes of oversight. That is no longer in the bill. That was the controversial component of the bill. It still retains the issue with the Governor having