

that this Governor not only wants to have that under the Department of Labor, under his direct...his direct organization, but including the fact that in this section of the amendment he wants to be able to get rid of his whole commission and start over again with more possibly compliant individuals. It just is hard to...for me to stomach, politically it's hard for me to stomach, even though I understand that there are people on both sides of the aisle who say go ahead and let him do this and take the hits for it, and then it will be there for future. That's exactly the kind of talk and language, I think, that the general public is disgusted with and want to see done away with in our political system. They want honest, ethical people who will approach things from what is best for the majority of people, not what is best politically. And I think this whole bill is a political bill and a political power play bill. And this section of .t, in particular, of this amendment, giving the Governor the power to completely do away with the commission, completely do away with the commission within 45 days, and reappoint the commission, it doesn't come in any of the recommendations of the extensive study that was done of the EEOC, this comes from the Governor's Office alone. It doesn't certainly come from what I would consider anything other than a political power play that he is, for some reason, and I don't know, holding over the heads of the individuals that was in this commission. But I don't think it should be allowed. I think the Legislature has a broader base, a broader political base, a broader ideological base than just one executive branch person. And I'm hoping that you'll see the wisdom in taking at least this section of this committee amendment out, because to me there is no reason, even if you want to put it under the Department of Labor, and you want to have that kind of oversight over that commission, there is no reason to completely wipe out the commission and allow the Governor to reappoint within 45 days. I believe it should stay as it is, and that's what this amendment would do, keep it the way it is now with their terms up...as their terms are up he can appoint them. But it wouldr't completely do away with the commission within 45 days. And I hope that members of the body would look this over and understand that it's really a common sensical thing to do. I don't think we should hand over to the Governor something that is potentially such a power play. And just from an ethical point of view, I hope you'll agree with me. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Warner, followed by Senators Hillman,