

in a timely manner, that there was some real questions as far as structure goes, internal problems. And as a result of that, what you see in the Appropriations Committee was looking at not having any control, no one having any control, and the only way that we had to adjust, or what we felt was try to improve an agency was a reduction in funding to that agency. In my estimation, all that did was to have an agency that had, in some cases, performance become even worse, because it's not a good way to manage services, it's not a good way for government to operate, and that's the only recourse we had. As a result of that, there was also additional legislation that came about, I think in rather a hasty manner that only made the situation even worse, and we got to a place where I think everyone, and especially the people that were supposed to be served, it was not happening. As a result the Program Evaluation then used it as a project, and I think there were some very good things that came out of that. The fact of it being a code agency has been discussed for quite some time. I think this body needs to look at any agency that's out there and who is accountable, because we have managed, in many cases, to flatten that process whereby you can't get anyone accountable, hold anybody accountable or be able to make the kinds of changes that people out there expect you to have. To me the frustration when you talk about citizens out there that are frustrated with government, it's because many times we have no control. We have no avenues to go in and do the kinds of things that need to be done. And some place the buck has to stop. And I think they've identified that very well. I think there are good checks and balances in this bill. It is not, in my estimation, in any way, shape or form a political bill. It was not something that came up recently, it's been ongoing for a considerable length of time. And there are some real needs to be addressed because of the situation where you have winners and losers, you will always have a certain amount of people that are unhappy, because you either have a winner and a loser, so there's always someone who is unhappy. The needs that need to be met, and need to be met in a timely manner is what initiated this whole process, because it was not being done in a timely manner. People had to wait too long for any kind of a result and were very frustrated by that. That was the real impetus, I think, to get this all started, is to meet the needs of those people who felt there was some discrimination in a timely manner. And this bill helps to do that. It will take a certain amount of time, but they've done it through looking at trying to shorten it through a