

very few people on this floor who has a lot of sympathy for Larry Myers. I've known him since 1970, and I think he worked very, very hard at his job. And he had a commission who followed along and accepted a lot of the things that he wanted done and so that's the way it goes. But the second...but the thing that really blew me are the people who...the whistle-blowers. The whistle-blowers were fired because they blew the whistle, and then when personnel told them they had to take them back, they didn't...the commission didn't do that. There's something amiss. So whether or not this is the answer, it's a step forward. And I think we do need to think about all of these things that have happened along. And you can't just ignore it, you have to try to figure out some way to correct the perceived problems and go on and let this commission function, and let the agency function. The only thing I don't like about this bill is the little micromanagement in there, setting up things in the statute as to how they will operate. But probably in the long run, I will go along with all of that just simply because I think the time has come for us to stand up and say, let's do it in a different way. The present Governor if he latched on to it as some kind of political football, fine. All of us do that. Let's remember, we're all political. I'm not defending him in any way, but the other thing, he won't be governor forever. There'll be other governors come along and we do need some kind of measure,...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...some kind of pattern, something for this commission to get with it and get a new director now that they...since they have to get a new director, and have the agency work the way it's supposed to do without all this controversy. And I'll go back to the whistle-blowers once more. We have whistle-blower legislation, and that still really laid me out when I see what...this agency is working against discrimination and for fair labor practices and so on; they don't practice what they preach when they fired those two people and then didn't take them back. So, I'll probably...I won't support the amendment. I understand what Senator Witek is saying, but in the long run I hope I can vote for the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers.