

rather than having it set as by...set by the authority of the Governor. We've had some concern in the past just exactly what the amount is and where it is. This puts it in the hands of the Legislature to set the salary, not to exceed this amount. In this case it's 81,000 dollars. It would require, of course, then an annual review by the Appropriations Committee as to what that salary should be, which does change it from now which says that the Governor shall nominate, and with the advice and consent of the Legislature, appoint a tax commissioner and shall fix his or her salary. That is the present language. This will say that the tax commissioner shall receive an annual salary of whatever as we move forward in the budget process. This year is it not to exceed 81,000 dollars.

SENATOR WILL: You've heard the opening. Debate on the advancement. Were you done, Senator Wehrbein?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: (Microphone not activated)..sentence I wanted to add.

SENATOR WILL: Go ahead.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This provision would harmonize the tax commissioner's salary with other constitutional officers, whose specific salaries are provided for in statute, so it does put it on par with other constitutional officers in terms of setting, not the exact amount but in terms of being set.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Debate on the advancement of LB 1120. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wehrbein, is the tax commissioner a constitutional officer?

SENATOR WILL: Senator Wehrbein?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: He's not on.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you are trying to put the tax commissioner in the same position as all other constitutional officers?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.