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all, there are certain records, like the actual income tax returns, that nobody can examine. Secondly, with respect to records that can be examined, they can be examined only under...only by staff, under certain specified conditions. Those conditions would also apply to the Speaker, or to the Chair of the committee. In those limited circumstances where one of those two individuals might have legitimate occasion to look at what the audit staff is doing, if a member of the Legislature...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...cannot resolve...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith, you may continue.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Beutler, are you saying that the staff of the Performance Audit Committee could very well have greater access to records than other members of the Legislature?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, of course, Senator. You're not going to be doing performance audits. And confidential information that is examined by the Audit Committee is not going to be revealed to any other member...to any member of the Legislature, in the ordinary course of matters. And so that's the whole point of confidentiality, that you don't...when you allow for a record not to be confidential, for purposes of a performance audit, it is a limited exception, to the extent that the auditors are able to look at the record, but they're not able to pass along the information in an individual record on to anybody else. They are under penalty, in the case of the Department of Revenue, of a felony offense if they do. The Chair of the committee and the Speaker of the house, in those limited instances where they would have access to the information, would also be under felony penalty if they misused it. So I...as for myself, I would never want to venture into that spot of exposing myself to a felony offense, unless it was absolutely required of me under my duties in the Legislature.

SENATOR SMITH: And if there was the unintended leaking of the