

dedicated people, so I kind of reject that argument that we have to raise Public Service Commissioners quite a lot, up to 40,000 a year, so they can attract some other people to that. I think we have done very well attracting people here. I guess I would just leave it with that. Also, I would say that Public Service Commissioners don't come under anywhere near the heat that we do. I think we all know that and only us 49 know that that probably Senator Chronister and Senator Schmit, some of us on Initiative 300, have taken more abuse in the last two or three weeks than a Public Service Commissioner would take in a lifetime, or that all of the Public Service Commissioners collectively would take in a lifetime. So I am just again trying to address the levels of responsibility, that they should be commensurate with that responsibility and what the job requires. Again, I am not pushing this issue, I just would like to have a little discussion with you whether you agree or disagree that we should be a little more precise and try to look at some of these seven positions individually and not just lump them together collectively. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Eret. Senator Wesely, excuse me. Senator Wesely, then Senator Eret and Senator Morehead. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President, Senator Rupp, Senator Rupp, can I ask you a question? Now, what you are doing in this amendment, trying to make it clearer, is you are providing for no increase for Public Service Commission?

SENATOR RUPP: Public Service Commissioner...

SENATOR WESELY: Lieutenant Governor?

SENATOR RUPP: ...Lieutenant Governor and Treasurer. The other four remain intact and these three would just...the raises remain intact and these three would just be removed from the raises.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, but the Auditor, I heard you mention the Auditor would get an increase.

SENATOR RUPP: The Auditor would get an increase and simply I didn't know how to justify that other than that they have 69 employees in that office and I think riding herd on 69 people lends some air of responsibility to the position.