

April 4, 1975

Since we will not be in session, we may be under Call, we're having a little festivity this afternoon. There's some cake over on the south side of the chamber. Also, I understand, tomorrow is the wedding anniversary of Jules and Bernice. So, it's a double whammy. The Pages will hand out cake.

CLERK: Mr. President, a communication from the Executive Office under date of April 3, we have received Engrossed Legislative Bills 370, 378 and 547. These Bills were signed by me on April 3 and delivered to the Secretary of State.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cope has some friends under the south balcony. The Dunns, Mrs. McBride and Mrs. Willard. Welcome to the Legislature. Nice to have you here. Proceed Mr. Clerk. Senator Murphy, I didn't think we'd get by without this. We'll recognize you.

SENATOR MURPHY: That is not so and I wouldn't say a thing about my Speaker. However, we have gotten into, for a moment here, considerable debate about A bills. I don't think we have actually resolved that Senator Simpson, whom I regard highly in the field of rules, stated that the A bill wasn't needed until it reached Final Reading. And I read in the middle of page 30 that an A bill must accompany on General File the authorizing bill. And I think it would be well, we're going to have considerable to do about any A bill, and I would appreciate it if we could get a specific stated manner of how we are going to handle this A bill. It's unfortunate that we had confusion. Most of the books had no modified fiscal impact but I think it should be very definitely stated that any bill coming on General File, having a fiscal note in excess of \$50,000, must in fact, before being considered, have an accompanying A bill with it and that it is not carried over to Final Reading before that A bill is required. If I read the middle of section G, it shall have it on General File and I think we might save an awful lot of discussions bill at a time here, if we could get that clarified.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think we have again an area in the book, the rule book, that is ambiguous to some extent. It takes interpretation. The portion that Senator Murphy is talking about is under certain conditions, we must have an A bill on General File with the bill. Above it it states what these conditions are. In other conditions, you do not need it until it gets to Final Reading. I think it would be fine that we clear this up and I wouldn't disagree but we should have the A bill, they are necessary, on General File because this is where we should be doing the discussing of the bills and knowing what kind of money we're talking about, if there's necessity for money. So I think we have a position in the rules that should be clarified that we don't have to go to the Chair everytime in an attempt to overrule and cause a lot of extra confusion over this. There would be many different ways that could be ruled under these two sections that are involved.

PRESIDENT: This is interesting and helpful. None of it's in order. The Chair would like to suggest, from the Chair's experience, that these matters cannot be resolved by 49 people. Those of you who have knowledge, experience, and