

when a Governor is unwilling to deal with a commission or with local political subdivisions, there is no way you can force it. Local government last year asked for a new federalism commission. It was appointed, but the commission was inundated with staff members of the administration that essentially had the working control of the commission. Their deadlines were such that the Executive Department's actions went on without the significant oversight of the commission and the whole project was torpedoed, in essence. It seems to me that there is no way to drag an unwilling executive into a cooperative spirit and if you have a cooperative Governor, you don't necessarily need a project like this. The job can get done without creating this mechanism.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chris Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I was one who voted against it in the committee. In fact, there was not one single positive vote in committee for the bill. I just also wanted to explain what I thought was the committee's rationale. Senator Landis has basically done that for you, but from my previous experience on the Education Committee I found a number of things but one of the things that always concerned me and that I found unworkable was when you set up a commission that relied on an existing agency for its equipment, for its staff help and for its money. That sort of thing doesn't work because the agency never wants to give up its resources to the new advisory commission and that is basically what this bill is doing. It is saying that the Policy Research Office, which is the Governor's personal staff, basically, under this bill it says that they shall give the necessary assistance, the staff aid, the equipment, they give equipment, they shall pay for the expenses of these whole number of new advisory people who are going to be coming down and advising. That is simply not going to work, just in my opinion it is unworkable. Secondly, it seemed to me that the whole idea of the bill was essentially to create a new lobbying group to put pressure on the Governor, and it seemed to me that we already have mechanisms for doing that, and if the Governor wants to hear from these people, he certainly has the legal mechanism to get them together to meet with them. But, of course, what all the cities and the counties and the school districts like about this bill is that the state pays for it all, so they can come up here at the state's expense and lobby the state. Those, I think, were some of the main considerations on the bill when it was heard in committee, and I just wanted to pass that along to you. Thank you.