

January 17, 1973

SPEAKER: You certainly can, Senator Savage. The only question I have--anyway you want to do it is fine with me. I am wondering whether the report of your committee of which you are chairman was not to be made to the Executive Board and then the Executive Board consider it and report to the body. Now, is Senator Carpenter here or any member of that committee?

SENATOR SAVAGE: Senator Carpenter is--

SPEAKER: This is fine, Senator, anyway you want to do it, but-- Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, the chairman seems to be engaged right now but the meeting was held yesterday and the committee did report back to us and it was the consensus of the committee that this be aired before the whole Legislature, and that John is the chairman, with Senator Goodrich and Senator Fowler, that it be brought to the attention of all the senators and that on each desk would be the amount of help that is in the Research Department and if there was any further discussion on this or people who are not appraised of everything that was needed, that by having it out here on the floor this morning, Mr. Speaker, they would have an opportunity to hear any others that had not been heard in our Executive Board meeting.

SPEAKER: Yes, that's why--I was unable to attend the committee meeting yesterday so I did not know that had been discussed. Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President, I rise to--I'd like to ask Senator Savage a question if he would so desire.

SPEAKER: Senator Savage, do you yield?

SENATOR SAVAGE: I will, yes.

SENATOR NORE: What is the physical impact of the Research people we have now and what will be the physical im--increased physical impact if we all have an assistant.

SENATOR SAVAGE: I don't actually know the exact figure. I did figure yesterday they pay these Research Assistants, which are law students as I understand it or law clerks, they are being paid \$3.00 an hour. We do have 22 members of the staff now. I don't know whether the committees are using or taking advantage of the opportunities that they have of having a clerk assigned to the committees. Some of the committees, I understand, haven't made use of them but I made a quick estimate yesterday at \$3.00 an hour, 49 members of the Legislature taking advantage of a full time assistant would cost \$1000 a day. So, maybe that's not right.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President, fellow members, I am wondering, I often wonder if probably we haven't had too much assistance. For instance, the DAS was a--to me was a mail order bill that was shipped in here from a so-called Chicago address. We have lost most of our powers here in the Legislature here to the Executive Board. They have much too much power. That's another mail order bill or several mail order bills I opposed in '65 and '67. So, we are almost sitting here as puppets and I am wondering if we would all the government we pay for, I don't think we could stand it. If we have 49 assistants here, how many will be indoctrinating and sending in these mail order bills where we will probably just as well not show up here.

SPEAKER: Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I was one of the senators that approached the Executive Board in regard to staff assistance and I think that the discussion this morning on the Department of Administrative Services and the usurption of legislative responsibility probably is reflected in the fact that we are reluctant to provide what we need to do the job. We did not propose that every member of this legislative body have a