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(Start of Belt #4)

when this all started, and I think it is dangerous. Now this morning we passed a bill giving the Executive Board more power, and pretty soon we won't need only the Executive Board, the rest of us can stay at home.

SPEAKER: Senator Carpenter, the Chairman of the Executive Board is absent, but I see the Vice-Chairman here, Senator Mahoney, would you care to respond Senator Mahoney?

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. Speaker, if I responded it would be to the point that as you well know the particular area that Senator Nore is mentioning is salary increases, and those salary increases as you well remember Mr. Speaker, and you were present along with myself at the meeting in which salary increases were approved had been long coming, they were salary increases that included the people that are with the fiscal analyst position. These are very critical areas, particular personnel that you can loose to other states, and the history of the Executive Board has been that if we do not pay them at least somewhere near the area that the States of Kansas and Iowa and South Dakota, these people have the opportunity and they do take the opportunity and they do leave and go off to particular positions in those other states, and we did make notice, as you well know Mr. Speaker, and other members of the Executive Board, that on that particular meeting last week, we did tell the legislature we would be meeting and all members of the Executive Board were invited to the meeting and we did have a study by our Legislative Director, Mr. Gerdes, who studied those salaries, some two weeks earlier, this was not an overnight decision, and he compared the salaries that we were going to approve that day with salaries in other states, and also with the longevity and the time that these people had served in those positions and you'll find, Senator Nore, that the salaries were not exorbitant, the salaries were fairly equal with the salaries of comparable positions of the same type of positions in the surrounding states in the midwest.

SPEAKER: Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: I'm not complaining about the salaries, Senator Mahoney, I just think that the business that's done in the Executive Council especially in that particular area should have the courtesy of probably letting us consider it as a body, if no more than formality out here, as far as attending those meetings, I understand that quite a number of your own Executive Board was missing, I'm not complaining about the salaries, I think what you do in the Executive Council or the Executive Board should be considered here on the floor and then act. Now what I'm getting at is the severance of a precedence, now knowing the Chairman of the Executive Board I'm afraid that he is a very aggressive, Senator Carpenter, and I'm afraid that probably we would like to check on some of the things that he is doing.

SPEAKER: Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. Speaker and Senator Nore, once again I want to repeat myself in this, in the Executive Board meeting that particular afternoon last week was well publicized. Every member of the nine member board knew that we were having a meeting and sometimes I must admit to you Senator Nore, probably I'm one of the more, persons who lack to attend the meeting, but I do remember that it was announced and that we did come to that meeting, those that could come, and possible others had engagements and it was not possible for them to make it, so it was not a meeting by chance or without wide publication. Also, probably Senator Nore I should mention this to you, that I have served on Executive Board for at least four sessions in the legislature, back and forth, I served on the last Executive Board and this Executive Board, and Senator Hasebroock the former Speaker will tell you, Senator Proud who now sits in the Speaker's post, the Executive Board in the past that we've had did not have the particular, shall I say authority, to do some of these things,