

May 10, 1973

(Start of Belt #3)

the forces so that somehow or other this whole operation of service, the state agencies could be more effective. There is nothing in this bill that I know of that takes power away from the Governor and gives it to the Legislature. If there is, I wish somebody would point it out to me. All we are trying to do is indicate..and this is spelled out by the title of the new department, General Services Commission, all we are trying to do is make information available to everybody including the Governor. So with this in mind as my initial statements, I wish to say first of all that we are trying to find a way to get the kind of information that each of you need to make the kind of decisions you need to make and secondly, sincerely you have a question about whether or not we are taking power away from the Executive branch and despite all of the letters I have received, despite all the publicity, I fail to see where this is a basic issue and if it is, I wish you would point it out because that's not the purpose and function of 452 which is now a very simple bill, simply stated, direct to the point, that is an sincere attempt on the part of many of us to try to get this system straightened out so that from accounting and data processing, we can get the kind of information that we need. In case you think that the Governor does not have power, I suggest to you that what I am seeking today is 30 votes to override a veto. By this very nature instead of needing 25 votes to pass this bill, we need 30. That's an indication of the fact that we respect the Executive Branch when we give the Executive Branch this kind of power. Secondly, I suggest that we have given the Governor the power of item veto over appropriations and I suggest that a reading of the federal rules and regulations will find that power comes from Washington direct to the Chief Executive in many instances. I would make one other point and I am not trying to be derogatory to anybody, I think this Legislature has been very fair with the Executive Branch. We went over yesterday, several of us, to hear about the latest flood damage that has either occurred or will occur and the concensus of the Legislators who were there was simply this to the Governor. Whatever help you need from this Legislative Branch, give us the information and we will give you the help. So I do not think that our record indicates a lack of cooperation. One other point I would like to make is that we make special provision for the Governor so that he can have his own representative on the floor of the Legislature. I know of no other group, no other branch that is granted this authority. I think this authority is important. In fact, it is so important that I went to the representative of the Governor yesterday and I said I would like to have you sit in a strategic spot so I can see who you are talking to and after you get through lobbying, then I can go to these Legislators and try to unlobby them. So I think any evidence I want to present will indicate to you that we are not attempting to take power away from the Governor. All we are trying to do is to make this information, this service, if you please, available to all of the branches of Government including the Legislative Branch. Now, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, we have many things to do today and I will reserve the right to summarize but that's all I wish to say to begin with.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the motion? Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would like to clear up some of these..this misinformation that's been going around that we are trying to take the power away from the Governor. I am not certainly highly emotional about this bill at all. The only thing I know is there is only two factions that is going to lose if the bill doesn't pass, that's the Governor and the people of the state of