

January 26, 1979

than seven other committees of the Legislature. In addition to that I would point out that the Public Works Committee handled more bills than this. I believe the number was sixty three or sixty four, I will have to check on that, but the Public Works Committee did handle more bills than this two years ago in the 1977 session, in the last ninety day session. So when you look at this session compared to others and you look at the work load of other committees, I do not believe that the work load in the Public Works Committee is excessive. I am also concerned a little bit about some of the politics that may be involved with this. I am certain that the members of the Executive Board would not refer bills simply for political reasons but I do know that Senator Simon was concerned about having these bills referred to the Public Works Committee and he indicated to me that he would prefer to have them somewhere else. Now I would hope that his reasons were not political, that he is concerned about the membership of a committee, and I would hope that that is something that does not occur in the Legislature, that we look at the membership of a committee and try and direct legislation elsewhere. I hope that that does not happen. You know I had a bill that was killed in the Revenue Committee. It probably would have had a better chance in Public Works but it dealt with taxes and the Executive Board referred that bill, in my opinion, correctly. I believe those are all my remarks and I do believe this is an important issue. I do believe that for the benefit of the committee system that we should indeed, refer these bills which are related to power to the Public Works Committee. Thank you.

PRESIDENT LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I am not so sure just exactly how appropo this is to this specific motion but I think it should be discussed and I think this is probably as close to it as we will get to discussing it. It appears for the past three or four years we have had some unequal work load between committees and it seems like maybe the problem is that we need to re-establish the criteria of subject matter that the committees need to address. We have talked about this several times, not on the floor during the past several years because of changing circumstances within our society and within our state, certain subject matters that have been lumped together in the past probably legitimately should be split into other areas of expertise. I think specifically a couple specific committee structures is the one thing we have talked about in the past is Constitution, Revision and Recreation and