

March 7, 1979

and I believe I'd (interruption).

SENATOR NEWELL: Are you going to speak later on, Senator Warner?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes.

SENATOR NEWELL: I'll let you do it then. I don't think you can limit appropriation bills. The Judiciary Committee, you know the Judiciary Committee is one of the most aggressive and active committees in this body, and that committee introduces far too many bills. Most of them I don't like, and for that reason I think that we can limit the bills coming out of the Judiciary Committee. I think the Appropriations Committee has a right to introduce bills, but there's...I don't think...I think the problems of limiting committee bills are extremely difficult. Senator Maresh introduced two...three bills today dealing with the claims. Now those claims...that bill has to come in every year. That bill is always introduced late every year. That bill should not be introduced by Senator Maresh alone...

SENATOR NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR NEWELL: ...because that is a tremendous impediment to him as an individual. And so what we do is this, in practicality and in reality, we should not limit committee bills. Maybe we ought to say that they need more than a majority of the members of the committee to sign them, but we shouldn't limit them. We can't limit them. The situation is this, so we ought to have some way for an individual senator, like myself, to say to a constituent or to one of those constituents that don't really live in my district but are more constituents beyond the double doors, say, I can't do it this year because I've got a six-bill limitation, and I can't introduce your bill. And for that reason, I think Senator...Senator Beutler's proposal is an infinitely fair one. It's an infinitely logical one. It may not work, but it's...but then it's not intended to do much more than give the legislators an opportunity to say no when...when they ought to. I introduced a similar rules change two years ago, and it died on a twenty-one twenty-one vote. That's probably because I was new like Senator Beutler and I didn't realize that you could have a call of the House and maybe even ask the Lieutenant Governor to vote, and so forth. But for that reason, I think this is an infinitely logical bill, an imminently logical rules change, which will, in effect, help people say no, and if they really need to introduce a bill, they can find a way to do that, as Senator Clark has known for a long time. Thank you.