

April 9, 1979

LB 457

amendment. The reason I made the motion and it is not a vendetta against Senator Simon or Senator Newell, and believe me, I have been here nine years, I know how to make a kill motion and I know, for example, that a kill motion only takes, well, put it this way, forget that. Let's just go to the logic of the thing. I am telling you that the proper place for public utility legislation is the Public Works Committee that deals with this subject. For that reason, I am suggesting that we not adopt the Newell amendment. Don't send it back to the messy subjects, I mean, the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee. Let's send it to the Public Works Committee that is to legitimately deal with the subject. Now if we are supposed to be concerned with the committee system, let's be concerned with it and let's send it to the legitimate committee that deals with the subject of it. I ask you, gentlemen, to reject the Newell amendment and leave the motion right where it is like it is to send this particular bill to the Public Works Committee that deals with the subject matter. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Fowler, do you wish to speak to one of the...do you wish to speak to the Newell amendment?

SENATOR FOWLER: Yes, I would like to speak to Senator Newell's motion and to the question of the original reference of this bill and I guess I have still not understood exactly what it is that the Public Works Committee will do with this bill. I think Senator Kremer is right saying that if there is concern about the actual subject matter, let's address it on the floor with regards to either a kill motion or its advancement but there really is at this point nothing to be gained to send this back to the Public Works Committee except to bury it. Now the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee, this is not the first year that they have heard things with regards to utilities and utility rates. I think that one of the problems that has been identified in this Legislature has been maybe a fragmentation of energy bills and the suggestion was made to provide an energy committee to coordinate that so that the alternative energy bills that have gone to Ag and Environment, the consumer bills that have gone to Miscellaneous Subjects, the electric revenue bills that went to Urban Affairs, the in lieu of tax payments bills that went to Constitutional Revision and to Revenue, that all six of these committees might give to one single committee the aspects of energy but the decision of this Legislature was, no, we want to keep it fragmented so that those that have a particular subject matter, whether it is the Ag and Environment Committee's concern with alternative energy, whether it