

January 9, 1980

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker, members, I want to draw your attention to on page 13, Section 11, whereby if bills are combined and the bills then that are left over are considered killed. Now sometimes in our process in the past, and I have never really enjoyed doing this, those bills that are not used for the purpose they started out for are used as another vehicle to bring in legislation. Now it sounds like a devious way of doing things but on occasion for the good of the Legislature and the state I think we may need to do that, and I am not sure that I would vote for or against it but I just want to draw your attention to that. It is a departure from what we have been doing. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: A question of Senator Fowler, please. Senator Fowler, on Section 14 (a) on page 16, why do you want to make the minutes of the executive session open to the public, the minutes of this meeting? Isn't that the purpose to have a closed meeting so you could discuss sensitive material and ask questions of people that would not want their information to be made public?

SENATOR FOWLER: Well, practice may vary from committee to committee. By minutes we do not mean the...well, they may not be transcribed or electronically taped and that is a transcript so oftentimes those aren't made and so a transcript would be different. Minutes perhaps, I think we talked about this in the Rules Committee, perhaps the term "records" would be more appropriate. What we are concerned about is like votes, the official actions, the copies of proposed amendments, those types of things should be public and minutes, I think "records" may be a better term and, in fact, I think we may have tried to change that in the Rules Committee and it just may not have been caught in the typing.

SENATOR MARESH: I think if you would say "records", that would be agreeable with me, but to say "minutes", that sort of says that you should keep minutes and then make them available to the public.

SENATOR FOWLER: Could the Clerk just change, I think it was the intent of the Rules Committee anyway, on page 16, strike "minutes" and put in "record"? Thanks, Senator Maresh.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Any other discussion? Senator Beutler, your light is still on. Do you wish to speak again? Any other discussion? Senator Fowler, do you have any other comments?