

January 10, 1980

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator, it is in the Journal on page 146. It should also be on your desk, Senator Marvel.

PRESIDENT: Page 146 of the Journal.

SENATOR NEWELL: The choice...the purpose here is not as some people have asked me, it is only combining the two committees, the Rules Committee and the Committee on Committees. It moves from the old four congressional districts, which we no longer have and which are not very logical, to the three congressional districts that we organize in for the exec board. I really see this issue more as a question of whether or not we continue to have a Committee on Committees which will be an organizational committee or whether or not we do away with the Committee on Committees since its only function now is to meet on the first day. I think that is the crux of the issue. Now the Rules Committee accepted this unanimously because it made sense. The old four congressional districts are no longer with us. They distort the population distribution. Even though we try to keep them we rewrite the districts all the time in order to keep the old four congressional districts, and simply we reduce the number in size of the Committee on Committees which is infinitely logical since that is a very difficult and unwieldy committee. It is very difficult to get people to come and since presently the Committee on Committees has no great function. The Rules Committee has five members and I think that by combining the two we provide for a committee that is more reflective of the body as a whole. So, in other words, in the future any rule changes that come to this committee, come to the floor, will be more broadly debated with more members and would be more reflective of what this floor may, in fact, pass. So for that reason I urge the adoption of this rule.

PRESIDENT: The question before the House then is the adoption of the Newell amendment to the proposed rule changes. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Senator Newell, did you have something...

SENATOR NEWELL: It is a committee amendment. This is a committee amendment.

PRESIDENT: This is a committee amendment. It is not your personal amendment, that is what you are saying, but you have made the motion. That is what I am saying...it is the Newell motion. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record the vote. Senator Newell.