

January 11, 1980

LR 180

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 180. It was offered by Senator Beutler. It can be found on page 120 of the Legislative Journal. (Read LR 180.)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, obviously we have three branches of government, the legislative and we kind of take care of ourselves and we have the executive branch and the Governor lets us know each year how they are doing as well as letting us know how the state as a whole is doing and the third branch, of course, is the judiciary branch and I think an equally important branch and I think a branch that we should hear about each year. So especially I think in these times when people are troubled by the Criminal Justice System in particular and the court system as a whole, I think it would be well for us to invite the Chief Justice to come before us and discuss with us, the problems of the judiciary system and I am very excited about doing that at this particular time in our history because I think we have a great Chief Justice and I am looking forward to and I think it has already begun, a period of adjustment and great improvement in the judicial system, an improvement that started, in fact, before the Chief Justice, with some initiatives here in this Legislature which I think will continue dramatically in the next few years and being the serious person that he is, I am sure that he will not treat this address as a ceremonial address, but that it will be a real nuts and bolts serious dialogue with the Legislature on what should be done with regard to the judiciary. So I hope you can support this resolution.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, it is more than appropriate that Senator Beutler speak to this resolution. Senator Beutler is a member of the bar. I think it is equally important that a lay person speak to this resolution and I urge this body to support LR 180.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Beutler a question or two. Senator Beutler, as I recall it, this is a new step for us to take in this Legislature and please don't misunderstand me, that I think new steps are not proper, but could you give us a little background on this? Has this ever been done before in our Legislature?