

action and the commission might recommend to a member if they ask for an advisory opinion that they not vote, so that is a real problem. It is not just an individual members problem it could be a legal problem also. For that reason I....

PRESIDENT: Senator Newell I...

SENATOR NEWELL: For that reason I feel that there is a need to address this not only in the rules but by the whole body at some point and time.

PRESIDENT: Senator Newell, I appreciate the fact that this should be referred to the Rules Committee, but having been the author of that bill that caused this disclosure act to come on the books, I do know something about it, I also served on that Commission and I think that you will find that there is nothing that would prevent your voting if you want to at this time. But you have a right not to vote.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President....

PRESIDENT: I don't want to argue the point with you.

SENATOR NEWELL: No, I'm not arguing, I'm just asking one bit for clarification so that we don't have a misunderstanding. This whole thing is for informational purposes.....

PRESIDENT: That is right.

SENATOR NEWELL: Trying to educate on this issue.

PRESIDENT: And, you want it brought to the attention of the Rules Committee.

SENATOR NEWELL: That is true. The one point that I would ask is, if I did vote, and I was found to have a conflict of interest would not the legal sanctions then be able to be applied?

PRESIDENT: I'm not going to make that legal decision other than to tell you what I said about the background to the disclosure act and what the commission has done in the past and beyond that I can not make any decision beyond that point.

SENATOR NEWELL: That is a very critical issue and that is one that I think is fairly clear.

PRESIDENT: I would suggest that you take it to the Rules Committee and if you want to, take it up with the Accountability and Disclosure Commission and get an advisory opinion if you