

that later, but look at what the Executive Board is supposed to be doing and what it has not done. I think you will understand why what we are doing today is very much in tune with the intent of those who originally defined the objectives and the jobs of the Executive Board.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, then Senator Landis.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, it has been mentioned several times this morning that both Senator Johnson and myself, as chairmen of the respective committees, Revenue and Education, had suggested that these particular bills should go to Revenue. I happen to think that it is more tax issues than it is education issues. I think it is appropriate for us to understand that we are not talking about the quality of education, or the quantity of education, or the type of education, or the number of schoolhouses. Instead of that we are talking about taxes, how land in this state is assessed to provide for education. That is what these issues are about. At the same time, as Senator Beutler has pointed out, there was a number of votes within the committee, within the Reference Committee in attempting to reference these bills, and they couldn't come to a conclusion. Now I never did appear before the committee. Senator Lamb, as a member of the Education Committee did, and that is his right. He is certainly able to do that. Senator Lamb happened to believe otherwise. Again, that is his right. We all have the right to disagree. I guess we all have the right to be wrong, too, depending on your particular point of view. But the one thing that I think it might be important to point out, Senator Lamb has indicated that this is not within our rules. I would like to point out, for those members that maybe have not been around here that long, that there are some precedences for doing this. This is not the first time the Executive Board has got involved with the hearing process on particular legislation or issues. The Executive Board, I would remind you, are us, are our representatives. During the interim they, in effect, are the spokespersons for the Legislature. On difficult issues that may not only be highly controversial because of their perhaps emotional issues, but also those issues that have implications to more than one committee, which admittedly this probably does, the Exec Board, in the past, has said, as representative of the Legislature, we will insert ourselves into that committee in an attempt to try to deal with this issue. I would remind