

you that that is what the Commonwealth Committee basically was. It was made up of members, generally, of the Banking Committee and the Exec Board. I would also tell you that a number of years ago, and I'm sure that those of you who have been around in this body a while remember when there was an issue of some cost overruns at a public power station, that the Exec Board did exactly the same thing along with the Public Works Committee in those hearings and that study of that particular situation. The feeling and the thinking at the time, I believe, was that this is an issue that has implications beyond that which perhaps the Public Works Committee could and should deal with.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR VICKERS: As representatives of the body, they injected themselves and became part of that study. I think it is appropriate that in this particular issue the combination of the Executive Board and the Education Committee stay together to deal with this particular issue. Now I want it clearly understood that even though I suggested at the outset that this bill go to Revenue, that it wasn't an attempt on my part to try to duck the issue at all. I think those of you who have been around awhile and have watched me and know me know that I'm not too particularly afraid to take on controversial issues. That is not the issue that is at stake. The issue at state is, is this a big enough issue and is this an important enough issue that we should have a combination of those people representing us as the Legislature sitting in on it and I would suggest that it is. I would also remind you that this is an issue that each state around us, and now us, have had to deal with in the past. You deal with this question only once.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time.

SENATOR VICKERS: So it is a major question. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Johnson said that Revenue studies property taxes and it is a tax committee, and that is the committee that should take these hard issues. So I'd like