

PRESIDENT: There is an amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to amend the resolution. (Read Beutler amendment found on page 705 of the Legislative Journal.) Senator Beutler would move to amend by striking that provision.

PRESIDENT: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, the resolution is a fine resolution from my point of view and I hope that the Attorney General, I am sure the Attorney General will pursue it. Now I was glad that the resolution was put in the form of requesting the Attorney General to pursue it. What I am doing is striking the second paragraph and that is the paragraph that basically says that the Exec Board of the Legislature and the Banking Committee are going to have the power to apparently somehow give resources to the Attorney General's Office in order to perform this function. And my problem with that is though I don't think that the legislative branch in this particular instance, particularly at this particular point in time, should be in the position of involving itself in the action whether by providing resources or directing actions or anything whatsoever. I think we should stay out of it. We should ask the Attorney to do it, we should see how they respond. If we are not happy with the response, then we may want to do something more. But we are the legislative branch of government, we are not the executive branch of government. We are not in the business of ourselves providing directly accept through appropriations resources to do this or that and becoming intricately involved in this or that. I don't want the Exec Board at this point in time involved in decisions about that particular lawsuit and nor do I want the Banking Committee in a position, as they would be under this resolution, to say that we are providing such and such resources to the Attorney General's Office. In short, I don't see any need whatsoever for that second provision, and if at some later point in time the Attorney General should demonstrate a lack of interest that should offend us, then I think we can come back and make some...have the Banking Committee work with the Executive Board and develop some alternative procedures, but at this point in time, I would like to keep those functions entirely separate as I think under our theories of government, under our theory of government it should be separate at this point in time.