

January 9, 1986

Number two, it says that by the tenth legislative day every committee, whether it be the Public Health and Welfare Committee, the Public Works Committee, the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee, the Revenue Committee, the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee or the Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee, every committee will determine what bills are going to be subjected to a public hearing. Those bills that are going to be subjected to a public hearing will then have a public hearing. Those bills that are not going to be subjected to a public hearing shall die, shall die. However, if a person is overly concerned with a sudden death of a bill that that person brought in, that person simply needs to find 24 supporters on the floor for that bill's having a public hearing. That should be done within two days after the committee files its report regarding public hearings. Then that committee will subject that bill, that idea, that nugget, that kernel to a public hearing and it will be treated just like any other bill. The next thing the proposal says is it says that all public hearings by all committees will be completed by the twenty-fifth legislative day. Now when that is done, that then allows us 35 legislative days, full days, full days, to actually talk deliberately on the 332 carryover bills that we have plus whatever bills have then come out of committee, plus whatever amendments are offered. It allows for much more deliberative time on the floor. Finally, the proposal says that each committee, each committee must be very judicious in terms of the numbers of bills that committee determines to advance to the floor and a one-day committee may choose 5 bills to advance to the floor and a two-day committee may choose 10 bills to advance to the floor and a 3 day committee may choose 15 bills to advance to the floor and the Appropriations Committee can choose any number of bills to advance to the floor. But this measure which is only for the '86 session, it's not for the eighty-seventh or the eighty-eighth, would be our first realistic attempt, in my view, to actually curb that appetite in a way that allows us to deliberate better on bills, allows us earlier to sort some of the chaff from the wheat. It allows us to conduct a finite number of public hearings as opposed to an infinite number of public hearings. It allows for better discourse on the floor. It allows us to dispatch relatively quickly those dogs that we know really aren't going to go around the track this time because they really weren't greyhounds. It allows us to take our work better. I think it's a good proposal. I commend it to you for your consideration and