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preparations for it, testimony itself, hearings, reportings. It probably could eventually lead to more staff, more reports...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: ...and my concern in a lot of ways is how I perceive Congress functions, at least. I am rather...it seems to me as I ask, the officers of the executive branch at the federal level probably spend more time before Congress than they have to spend minding their own departments and the reason for much of that is because Congress' authority is so dispersed...fragmented, the jurisdiction overlaps and it creates a lot of confusion, as we all well know. It has already been pointed out that fiscal staff here is responsible to each and every one of you. I think they have done a good job and as many of you indicated, you have always been able to acquire information that you wish to acquire. The appropriations process, as any of you who have served know it is long, it's tedious, it's often boring. There is not much glamor. It has few rewards. We spend more time saying no than we do saying yes, and it is nicer to say yes, but in these difficult times in order to say yes even to a few, we are going to be saying no to most. I cannot judge on how the time demands that each of you have in your individual committees may affect the time that you may have to give to this. Obviously, you can always do those things that are most important. But it is interesting to me that we have been spending a lot of time during the interim talking about how to restructure the committees because of the time problems and we spend a lot of time talking about ways to reduce the number of bills to permit more time for the committees. I am not too sure but what this will not...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: ...totally add to it. So, with that, I have some other thoughts I would like to talk about on Congress, how they function, but I would recommend that we do not adopt this. But if there are individual committees that want to attempt something informally, I certainly am sure that we would all be willing to try and work that out and see how the process would work.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please, then Senator