

January 10, 1986

was a committee that had a grant from the National Conference of State Legislatures. Since this special committee has some significance, not only within this body, but because of this grant from the National Conference of State Legislatures, some significance outside of the body, it seemed appropriate to me that this committee should be able to introduce legislation as a result of its studies. Also I think it is imperative on us that we create a rule so that we don't have to create a special rule, such as we did for the Commonwealth Committee. This is a rather narrow definition that two things have to take place. There has to be an interim study introduced to create the committee, and it has to be authorized, the Executive Board actually has to authorize and make the membership, set up the membership of this committee. It would not, so that you understand, it would not allow the Economic Development Committee, the Ad Hoc Economic Development Committee to introduce legislation because there wasn't an interim study that started it, that created it. So it is rather narrow in nature. Again, I would remind you that it does not allow this committee to have any bills referenced to it. I think that is an important point that you all need to understand. I would ask for the adoption of this rules change, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, would Senator Vickers yield to a question? Senator Vickers, how many committees will be affected by this rule change? Or how many special committees have been created for an interim study resolution and authorized by the Executive Board?

SENATOR VICKERS: Only one right now, this year, if you are asking the question about this year, only the one.

SENATOR ABOUD: Just the committee that you talked about earlier.

SENATOR VICKERS: Yes.

SENATOR ABOUD: Will they be entitled to two priority bills as well?

SENATOR VICKERS: I don't think so because if I recall correctly, I'd have to look at the rule, but I think the rule applies only to Standing Committees.