

January 13, 1986

committee, if it is asked to meet on Fridays as is the General Affairs Committee, again a one-day committee meeting on Friday, if we try to have an Exec Session when those issues are fresh in the minds of the members it may be a virtual impossibility when many of us want to vacate the premises early on Friday to get back home into our districts to meet with constituents, to try to make a living, whatever the case may be. I, for one, am three hours from Lincoln. There are times when I like to leave town a little bit early on Friday. These two committees are going to be at a disadvantage. When will they have their Exec Session? A second concern is recess days. This body sometimes likes to recess on Friday afternoons. It is going to be just a little bit difficult for a one-day per week committee, if it were shifted to Friday, to meet on a recess day. We are limited according to the number of days that we can have hearings anyway, and these one-day committees in many cases would not even have the benefit of a hearing at all during the week. A Thursday or a Friday committee, of course, would have that possibility. That one-day committee will not be able to make up that loss of time on a Thursday, a Monday, or a Tuesday. So for those reasons, Mr. President and others, I would like to recommend to the body that we do nothing, that is that we vote no, we retain the present system specifically for the reasons I mentioned regarding constitutional revisions and one-day committees. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Schmit, then Senator Vickers.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the body, I would like to say at this time that I share with...all of you have discussed the reorganization question this morning some of the concerns about how the reorganization will impact upon various committees. I would suggest also that this is not the first time the situation has been discussed, nor will it be the last. No one who has had any position and responsibility or authority likes to usually lose that responsibility. Senator Rupp referred to the fact that those two committees were...he and Senator Hannibal's committees were proposed for abolishment. I don't think it has anything to do with who is chairman, although in all honesty, in all honesty I am sure that the alignment of issues, the assignment of bills in the past have at some time or another been determined by the make-up of the