

January 16, 1986

Committees, with the Executive Board, all of the Legislature and decide which areas are going to which committees. It may be very possible that with regard to the Ag Committee, for example, that we will choose to send all environmental matters to the Ag Committee. Just because it's called the Ag Committee doesn't mean that we have to change the jurisdiction of the committee with regard to what it deals with now. That suggestion was made because in most all legislatures in the United States there is a natural resources committee which encompasses the area of environment. But once again I think it is one of those areas where we are worried about people in place in the short-run, and what might happen in the short-run. But if you put the structure in place, the proper structure in place, people will reorient themselves to their areas of interest and that will balance out probably next year right away, but certainly within a very short period of time. So the thing that we should do is be sure that the structure and the institution is set up correctly, and then let people go where their interests are. In any event, I want to repeat again don't lose confidence in your own judgement, don't lose confidence in the process that is going to come after this point in time. Everything, almost everything is open to our discussions. If you do away with the rule change, basically what is happening is that you are abandoning serious discussion of the committee restructuring problem. When I passed out the surveys to you, when we took the surveys last interim, committee restructuring, different kind of ideas about committee restructuring was the number one thing,...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and we responded to that. The staff came up with some very good alternatives as to how it could be made better. Now you tell me, or somebody is telling us that now that we are down to the nitty gritty of it, now that we are down to what we all know needs to be addressed, we want to back off, we become afraid. A coalition of narrow interests, each one of us thinking about our narrow interests can and may defeat this today. But I hope you won't let that happen. I hope that each one of us is willing to give up some things that we don't quite like in order to get overall a better system. I'm doing some things. I know I'm going to end up approving some things that I don't altogether like. But, once again, I hope you