

January 16, 1986

a lot of people. I would like to again remind you that that would be one thing we would be able to do under this rule change and again commend the Legislature for taking the step, making the change, and now ask you not to change your mind and go back to what we had previously because there were many problems associated with, and those problems surely are worse than what this new change would bring. Certainly we can't do much worse than what we've had.

PRESIDENT: Jerry Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I don't know how many times I've been through discussions of committee lineup. There have been many of them, and in most cases it ends up adding rather than really truly realigning. I recognize that whenever we talk change in our structure we are more comfortable with what we have and we tend to be suspicious of a change, not being real sure how it would work out. I also would agree that there are probably a dozen right ways to realign it, or some number, and a lot of wrong ways probably. But I'm very comfortable with what is proposed in the rule change that was adopted the other day. Reference has been made that we attempt to balance work load historically through reference, and that is true, inadvertently it happens. It makes more sense to me that we do it as proposed here. But the only thing I want to mention which really attracts me about the new alignment is it seems to me that it is going to avoid, or at least has the potential to avoid a lot of the problems that we've had on the references in the past, and when I look at the mix of days in which committees meet, the one thing that really strikes me is the unusual opportunity for the same senator...for a single senator to be on two or more committees which are likely to be similar subject matters, not similar but compatible, related subject matter and be able to participate in both. You can see it several places. Agriculture and Natural Resources, you could be on both if that was a concern. You could be on Revenue and Education which certainly has a tie. You can go on down and find many combinations where you as an individual senator could serve on two different committees or three where there would be similar related legislation dealing with the subject matter that you might have a very keen interest in, and I like the system. Now if there is a hidden agenda, I don't know. You always assume there is a hidden agenda, I suppose, in everything that happens. I'm not aware of one and it really