

January 26, 1979

LB 423, 452, 455,  
457, 460, 462

has been said about the committees otherwise. Obviously we know by caucus that out of the genuine concern of the rule area, in the area of Public Works and Agriculture, Omaha and Lincoln have historically given those seats to members of the third and fourth caucus. Now you could say, if you look at the Agriculture Committee, most of them are involved in farming and that is correct but that is not a reflection on any member of that committee in terms of their judgement. If you look at the Public Works Committee, more than half of them are from rural areas and that is not a reflection on them. I think that is important that they be there. So I want to set the record straight to start with, that composition of a committee by politics or locale in my judgement have never been a factor on the decision that committee makes. Now let me tell you the real story. The real story is that these bills have been referred. The real story is there is thirty or forty other bills that people want referred. I think we have tried to do it in a fair and objective fashion. This is an opportunity to vent some frustrations from other issues if you like. There may be some that would be petty enough to say, hey this is a chance to get to this person or that person. There may be some that say, hey I could get even for past events. I don't believe that is the tone of this Legislature and I don't believe the large numbers vote that way. There may be one or two that do that but that would be consistent with some of their prior positions which would not be a surprise to anybody. I think what you ought to do on this issue is consider three things. First of all in terms of how we reference; second, on terms of the legitimacy of the bills and where they ought to go; third, where they have been before and vote on those issues and that is acceptable to me. So, Mr. Chairman, with those I would obviously oppose the rereferencing of the bills.

PRESIDENT LUEDTKE: Motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb moves to amend the Cullan motion by striking "455, 452, and 423" from the motion.

PRESIDENT LUEDTKE: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, in looking over the bills which Senator Cullan would rerefer I find that there are only three bills which I consider to be definitely outside their proper committee and those three bills are LB 460, LB 462 and LB 457 and those are the only three that are left on the list if you accept my amendment. Those three bills have to do with electric rates, all three of them, and they certainly, as far as I am concerned, definitely belong in the Public Works Committee.