

January 26, 1979

the justification of the rationalization of putting recreation in the same committee structure of constitution. I think another committee that we have talked about in the past is Agricultural and Environment, the possibility of the work load involved between agriculture and environment. I think another one and really the case at point is the different areas of expertise the committee on Public Works takes care of. So I wonder if this body should not really seriously take a look at our existing committee structure and the subject matter and maybe make it a sincere effort, and of course we can't do it anymore this year, but certainly we could lay the groundwork for next year to reestablish the subject matter of the various standing committees and I think we would avoid similar situations like you have this morning and have had in the past years.

PRESIDENT LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. President and members of this distinguished body, this issue has been before us for some time on rereferrals of bills and it is a very interesting subject and most of us that have an interest level in bills from time to time like to think about what possible committee we would like to have bills referred to. The Executive Board has had a number of those requests from a number of you. Structurally the way that we have set up the system was a staff person would refer the bills and part of that reference is based on historical precedent. The prime criteria I established was where did the bills go last time or bills of a similar nature. The bills that we are dealing with now, most of them deal with utility shut off, rate review structure. That was involved with Miscellaneous Subjects. I happened to serve on that committee. I happened to attend a couple of the interim studies on that issue so we referred them that way and I think that is the best way to do it and Senator Kremer has agreed that there is no problem here with him on these bills in terms of the way they are referred now. That is what he has told me. Secondly, in regard to that particular committee or the politics of the committee that I have served on for six years, Miscellaneous Subjects, I certainly have full respect for each member of that committee to determine the bills and vote on those bills as they see fit without any other reason and I highly resent any kind of implication to otherwise and I am most certain that Senator Cullan was not trying to say that. Because from time to time that