

Committee was...I can see why I forgot that in that case. There is a great deal of frustration, but I'm sure both by the committee members and by legislators who bring very complicated bills before a committee. They have to hear several of them during a period of an hour and a half, and it is a difficult process for the committee members and for the members bringing the bills and it deals with massive sums of money and I think it's a good idea, Senator Haberman. Frankly, I don't know where we're going to find time in our schedule to assign it a day, and I think that is something that maybe we need a study resolution accompanied with this to find that particular time. I think it's a good idea to change the name to a standing committee. I don't know if it necessarily, automatically gives it its day, but I think that is a problem we need to work on. I think it is a committee that does deserve...we give it a tremendous amount of responsibility, but not a tremendous amount of resources to deal with and I think we should do that. I'm going to vote in favor of your amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hall, please, on the Haberman amendment.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members, I also rise in support of Senator Haberman's amendment to LB 189. The issue, as he has pointed out, is one that the committee does receive a number of bills. It is very different from every other special committee that we have. Over the years it has gotten more and more bills that have been referenced to it. It has gotten more and more importance, if you will, with regard to the impact that it has. Clearly, that was laid out by Senator Warner with regard to his arguments for the chairman of the Appropriations to remain on that committee and those are good arguments in that regard. The issue that Senator Withem raises I think is spelled out in the rule book. You find it under rule number 3, Section 6, on page 18 of the book where it says, standing committees shall meet at 2:00 p.m. on weekdays unless otherwise approved by the Legislature and it says that they meet at two o'clock. We have otherwise decided that they meet at one-thirty, but, Senator Withem, it is my understanding, based on reading the rule book, that with this amendment the Retirement Committee would become a full-fledged standing committee and would then have to be slid into a slot and meet during the week sometime when the rest of the committees meet, and I think that is important. I think the fact that there are a number of bills that do go to that committee today, and there will probably be more into the