

carrying this type of bill. And I just want to reiterate what Senator Hall and others have said, that is that there is a substantial amount of work that is involved with these boards that is in addition to the actual meeting. Administration of a substantial budget, a \$20 million budget, in my opinion, should not be a casual affair. It requires certain qualifications, certain amounts of ability. And more and more we find that the individuals who are called upon to serve on these boards find it very difficult to do so without incurring some financial sacrifice. I know there are those who are glad to serve, you always find someone who is willing to serve. But, very honestly, this is not the type of responsibility that ought to be done casually. And, as such, I believe the compensation is justified. And certainly the concern about handling it here the last few days of the session has some merit. But I would suggest that this body will directly or indirectly spend or obligate the taxpayers of this state by millions of times the amount of money involved here without even the amount of debate we're giving this issue at this time. So I would suggest that we support the Hall amendment...Hall motion and return the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't want to suggest that the members of the board are not fine and have great responsibility. But what bothers me is that this is in a statute dealing with the metropolitan water district and metropolitan utilities district. I guess, Senator Hall, I have another question for you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hall.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Who drew this up for you in this section?

SENATOR HALL: I crafted this all by myself. And the reason for it, Senator Pirsch, is that what it does is it puts them on the same level, in my opinion, where they belong, because they make the same types of decisions.

SENATOR PIRSCH: But we have statutes that deal with the Metro Area Transit Authority. Why did you not put them in there?

SENATOR HALL: Because by placing them in this statute, that when the increases are looked at, they are looked at together and uniformly, because I think the three of them belong together