

November 13, 1989

PRESIDENT: Thank you. I'll call on Speaker Barrett to...I know he's been pondering this, and perhaps he would have a suggestion for us. Senator Barrett, please.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. President and members. At the time the schedule for the Special Session was shared with you, of course, we had no idea that today might evolve into the situation we find ourselves in right now. My purpose in recommending to you the session agenda was to simply apprise you of my thinking of how we could handle, best handle the minimum of seven days and perhaps more that we'll be in Special Session. It was an effort to be of assistance to the members of this Legislature. The events of today, with the Revenue Committee holding a hearing this morning, and then, of course, recommending the bills to us with amendments, has changed the complexion of things, particularly I understand one of them is a rather involved amendment. So, based on the conversation on the floor in the last few minutes, I would recommend that I change my agenda for tomorrow and recommend that we convene at one o'clock tomorrow afternoon. That should give us ample opportunity to look at the amendments, to do some thinking and some research, or whatever we want to do. We can stay here tomorrow afternoon or tomorrow evening, as long as it takes, to dispose of whatever we need to dispose of. So, that would be my recommendation, under the circumstances, where the Bill Drafter does not have the amendments ready, and probably will not have them ready until seven o'clock, and perhaps later. If there are any questions, I'd be glad to try to answer them, otherwise, thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Scofield, did you wish to speak?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. President, yes. One, I appreciate Speaker Barrett's suggestion. I think that, at the minimum, is a good one. But the other thing that has been concerning me about this session is I know we all feel very frustrated about our inability to have seen these bills, and now to see the amendments. But imagine what that is like if you're also a member of the public out there, trying to follow this process. I, believe it or not, do have some constituents that are vitally interested in this, and have asked me...and for those who are taking the trouble to do that, we're doing the best we can to get information out to them. But if you think about the one day lag in the major daily newspaper in the state, by the time they get the news about what comes out tonight, and even happens