

a half short years that I functioned in that capacity that if there is a legitimate state interest, if there is a legitimate legislative interest, if there is a legitimate issue or subject matter that an individual member has expertise or is attempting to gain expertise in, then those programs, those events should be made available to them. That's the policy I have always had, that's the policy I will always continue to have the next year and a half. What you need to know is that right now the Executive Board has to approve international travel. When individuals leave the continental United States,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...the fact of the matter is that has to be approved by the Executive Board. It doesn't go through Intergovernmental. Any travel outside the United States requires the Executive Board approval. It is not a major change in policy. And Senator Avery's comments about the power line and the select few, well, call it what you will. I mean we could do this now I guess is my response to that. We chose not to. We chose to bring it in. I guess those select few that represent each and every one of us on the Executive Board, I believe take their job very seriously. They were elected by their caucus and Senator Witek may not feel she has any input, but she has a vote just like each one of us, and she may not like the outcome of the election, but she clearly has a vote and was in attendance each and every time that I remember with regard to selection of those individuals. The real issue here is do we need this additional layer of government, and I say...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...we don't. I would urge you to reject Senator Avery's amendment and move LB 307 to E & R Initial. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Crosby, to speak to the Avery amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Madam President and members, I probably will not support the Avery amendment. I think that Senator Withem and Senator Hall have stated it very well too. In the first place I think it's wonderful that we're getting rid of a commission, can you believe it? We're getting rid of a commission. Let's do it, folks. But the other thing I wanted