

SENATOR HALL: Yes.

SENATOR ELMER: I don't know if we maintain the current intergovernmental structure if that division could be made by policy and do continue the current application for travel and approval system that has worked pretty well, in my view, and get rid of the confusion on the appointment side.

SENATOR HALL: Senator, the issue is one of, for me, the difference is you've got administrative function in terms of the travel issue. The issue with regard to the selection for those various committees, I guess, can run afoul of various types of political affiliations, issues that more than a certain number of people have an interest in. Clearly, I think there needs to be some kind of defined policy as to how those selections for various committees are made. I think...and the policy ought to be one that is the policy of the Legislative Council, which are those policies that the Exec Board establishes.

SENATOR ELMER: I understand. And I know that when a new class of legislators arrive on the scene they are very ignorant of all of those national committees and all those kinds of things that we who have been here awhile are aware of. And I do believe that as new members come in they need to be well informed of those opportunities. When I was Chair of the committee, I tried to use areas of interest, plus considerations of seniority to make appointments, and then as positions were taken, offer other committee choices to other members, which it seemed to be fair. But there still was the confusion...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR ELMER: ...there was still the confusion between the national organizations we were members of and our unique structure, because the Chair of the Intergovernmental had the opportunity to appoint some, and the Speaker, as the presiding officer of the Senate, in the view of the national organizations, had privileges to appoint others. And I think that those would need to be clearly defined. I'm not sure how you could put this into the policy, but I'm sure it could be accomplished.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, thank you, Senator Elmer. Senator Pirsch.