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says the Executive Board is authorized, not Exec...not Reference Committee, the Executive Board is authorized to exercise jurisdiction over legislative bills and resolutions and hold hearings regarding such legislation when the issue presented by the legislative bill or resolution is one of general import to the Legislature and its operation as a whole. Salaries certainly are of general import to the Legislature. Every bill that the Executive Board refers to itself falls within the province created by the language that I read. A bill standing alone may seem to relate to another branch of government or another agency,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...but when we talk about performance audits and there is activity of that nature being considered by the Legislature to be handled as a legislative function, any bill on that subject relates to what the Legislature is going to do and how it's going to operate. We are going to debate this question, this rule, and we'll have differences of opinion, but at least we get things into the record. And I just wanted to mainly clarify the fact that the Executive Board serves as a Reference Committee, but we don't refer any bills to the Reference Committee, and Senator Schimek's language says the Reference Committee shall refer to itself certain bills. Well, there is nothing in the existing rules that authorizes the board functioning as a Reference Committee to hear any legislation. So,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...under the current rules, it's the Executive Board that would conduct the hearings, and it should stay that way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker...Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Beutler, on the Schimek amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, let me make a couple of quick remarks about process. Contrary to the proposed rule changes that came to you from the Rules