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SENATOR BEUTLER: Just a couple quick comments, if I may. I have a bad feeling that maybe some people feel that the Executive Board is reaching out to grab more and more things, and I don't think there's a trend in that direction. But I wanted just to read to you the statute that governs the Legislative Council, of which the Executive Board is the operating or managing committee, I guess you would say. But the reason I wanted to read this to you is because I think it will indicate to you that what the Exec Board actually does, in fact, from a day-to-day basis, is far, far less than what was originally envisioned in the statutes, which of course some Legislature before us put in place to govern the Legislative Council. But it creates...50-401 creates the Legislative Council, with the Exec Board at its head, and it said its function shall be to consider legislative policies between sessions and, and to carry out the duties of 50-402. Now what does it say in 50-402 which are the duties of the Executive Council (sic)? "To collect information concerning the government and general welfare of the state." Well, the Exec Board, as such, doesn't do that. "To examine the effects of previously enacted statutes and recommend amendments thereto." Exec Board rarely does anything like that, except as it relates to internal statutes affecting the operations of the legislative branch. Here's a broad one: "To deal with important issues of public policy and questions of statewide interest." Here's another one: "To prepare a legislative program in the form of bills or otherwise as in its opinion the welfare of the state may require." You know, as I've read these before and as I read them now, really what was originally intended was that the Executive Board would be the group that during the interim would pull together with the committees to form a legislative agenda for the next legislative session that we would all work on as the agenda that we wanted to get done, I suppose somewhat of a replacement of a partisan caucus that would meet before a legislative session to decide what was going to get done in a legislative body. But I think because there's no money and nobody working for \$12,000 a year wants to do this sort of thing, that's probably part of the reason that that never happened. So what the Executive Board is and how it operates is really just a small thing and a vestige of what was envisioned in the statutes, and I think you ought to know that; that the