

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

January 13, 2005

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...other than strictly internal pay scale things, or something like that. And I would argue strenuously that those are things that go to the vitalness of the Legislature as a whole, as an institution. It's the job of the Executive Board to protect that. Those bills are rightly referred there. And this, under this new amendment, if it's adopted, they would not be referred there. The Government Committee has a whole load of bills this year. They have plenty to do. It seems to me it's unnecessary to further restrict the Executive Board and give more work to the Government Committee, especially when what's going on between the Government Committee and the Exec Board in this instance is no different than what goes on between one committee and another. We get requests for rereferencing constantly, every referencing session, half a dozen to a dozen of them. Most of the time, we rereference in accordance with agreements between two committee Chairs, or we reconsider our decision, more often than not, that we'll change it. I don't think there's been any sort of arrogant or imperial Executive Board here. I hope you don't think that.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And I think the present rule serves us well. Thank you.

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

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support the amendment. I am a member of the Government Committee, but I want to say that I don't really even think that this is about the Government Committee or about the Executive Board or about referencing. I think it's more a decision about what our institutional processes should be. And I don't think it's jurisdictional, necessarily. The question really is, is the Executive Board set up to be a standing committee that handles bills, or is it set up to be an internal administrative committee primarily that in some instances would take on