

MINUTES

JOINT RULES COMMITTEE

The Joint Rules Committee met in room 331 of the capitol on February 19, 1977. Senator Murphy called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. All members were present.

Senator Murphy stated that the issue under discussion for this meeting was the transmittal deadline.

Rep. Driscoll recommended that the committee suspend the rules and extend the deadlines for transmittal; 50th day for regular bills, 55th day for HB 122, 62nd day for transmittal of revenue bills and 70th day for appropriation bills. Rep. Driscoll moved that these extensions be granted. Discussion followed. During the discussion, Senator Mathers made a substitute motion that the transmittal deadline for regular bills be the 48th day. Senator Murphy suggested that each deadline be taken separately. Rep. Driscoll said they could agree to that and he seconded the substitute motion. After a general discussion it was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

Senator Mathers suggested that the transmittal date for HB 122 be extended to the 53rd day rather than the 55th. Rep. Driscoll moved seconded by Rep. Moore. A brief discussion followed. The motion was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

The committee then turned their discussion to revenue bills and appropriation bills. They discussed what the definition of bills would be. It was decided not to define the bills and have the same transmittal date for both of them.

Rep. Bardanouye said that some time these bills will have to be held up to get a total financial picture. Senator Turnage said that maybe this could be a policy decision of the rules committee.

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Rep. Driscoll then asked Rep. Bardanouye to explain the difficulties his committee was having. Rep. Meloy then read the definition of revenue bills from the rules book, SJR 6-34 "A revenue bill is one which would either increase or decrease tax collections."

Senator Mathers stated that his understanding would be that the 62nd day applies to everything except major appropriation bills, which could be considered by a joint House and Senate.

Rep. Bardanouye said that one of the problems is the hearing time. When a hearing is scheduled for bills jointly that would shut down the subcommittees.

Senator Thiessen said that there is still possibilities that we could jointly hear some of the big bills. Rep. Bardanouye said a policy decision has to be made between the House and the Senate appropriations and finance and claims.

Rep. Meloy asked if the bills that have fiscal impact would be able to get out?

Rep. Bardanouye requested that the senat could hang on to them.

Senator Thiessen stated that if the Senate holds the bill and the House kills the appropriation, then the Senate would have to kill the bill. Senator Mathers suggested that they be held in committee and then the House could let them know what they wanted done.

Rep. Driscoll asked if he could amend the motion to be the 65th day? Rep. Bardanouye said that his committee would make whatever deadline the committee gave them. He also stated that he would have to analyze the bills in his committee.

More discussion was held. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Rep. Bardanouve then asked if the subcommittees were having troubles could they hear segments of the bills? Rep. Marks suggested that a joint Finance & Claims and Appropriations committee hear the bills. He moved that the rules committee set a policy that the Senate and House finance committees get together for a joint hearing, and that separate action could be taken in each house on the bills.

More discussion followed. Rep. Bardanouve asked if there needed to be a policy decision. Rep. Moore stated that this would save a third hearing on some of these bills, unless they were amended. Senator Murphy then asked the group if they felt a policy decision was necessary from the rules committee. The group decided that they didn't need one.

Rep. Bardanouve said that a major problem was a bigger hearing room. It was suggested that the treasurer's office and the governor's reception room could be used.

Meloy asked if there was any reason to change the senate's amendment dates. He felt that this would give the House only 10 days to act on Senate amendments.

There was no further business. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann F. Owens

Jo Ann F. Owens, Secretary

Terry Murphy

Senator Terry Murphy, Chairman

Date approved 2/11/77