MINUTES OF THE MEETING JOINT RULES COMMITTEE THIRD SPECIAL SESSION OF THE 49th LEGISLATURE

June 23, 1986

The fourth and last meeting of the Joint Rules Committee was called to order by Chairman Van Valkenburg at 1:00 p.m., in the Senate Judiciary Committee Room in the State Capitol. All members were present.

Chairman Van Valkenburg stated the purpose of the meeting as being the need to adopt or recommend for adoption a transmittal deadline for petitions.

He stated that there was no legal way to stop the circulation of filing of petitions, but indicated a desire to have a concensus among the committee that members of the respective caucuses should be strongly encouraged to stop circulating petitions on a certain date, especially with regards to petitions perpherial to budget concerns.

Chairman Van Valkenburg suggested that Wednesday, June 25, 1986, be the deadline.

Representative Quilicy stated that he had started a petition for a sur-tax bill, but wanted to wait until it was absolutely clear that the Legislature would have to pass some type of revenue measure.

Chairman Van Valkenburg stated that he would interpret that as a measure to balance the budget and that he was concerned with petitions that merely distract from the focus of budget balancing.

Representative Addy stated that the only way to enforce such a deadline would be to ask each caucus to restrain their members from signing petitions.

Representative Ramirez stated that the problem would take care of itself simply as a practical matter. He insisted that a Wednesday deadline would be meaningless.

Representative Harper stated that it was accepted practice to take names off of petitions so perhaps names could be collectively removed.

Chairman Van Valkenburg said no, names could not be collectively removed from petitions.

He asked the committee if they wanted to take further action of the matter at that time.

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Chairman Van Valkenburg stated that the next subject for consideration was whether there should be a transmittal deadline for bills falling within the scope of the session.

Representative Vincent stated his opposition to a transmittal deadline, as it might take away flexibility.

Representative Ramirez agreed with Representative Vincent that indeed it might take away flexibility, however he supported the adoption of a transmittal deadline in order to force the body to come to grips with necessary decisions that might otherwise be delayed. He indicated that a transmittal deadline would get the body out by Saturday.

Chairman Van Valkenburg stated that a transmittal deadline might or might not get the body out by Saturday.

Representative Brown suggested that there should be a transmittal deadline for the RIT bill only.

Chairman Van Valkenburg stated that as a motion, Representative Brown's suggestion would be out of order.

Chairman Van Valkenburg suggested reviewing the progress of the bills on a day to day basis, thereby avoiding a transmittal deadline unless necessitated.

MOTION: Senator Christiaens moved to adjourn.

Chairman Van Valkenburg adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Chairman Van Valkenburg

Secretary Kelly Jean Beard