

M I N U T E S

Special Committee on Legislative Facilities

February 14, 1967

All members of the Committee were present. Speaker of the House Conard and President Pro-Tem of the Senate Smith were also in attendance.

The Committee reviewed the tables on legislatures and legislative councils in other states which it had directed the Research Department to prepare.

Senator Smith stated that as a first area of emphasis, he hoped the Committee will develop some recommendations to the legislature on these matters:

- 1) What changes should be made in the structure of the Legislative Council?
- 2) Should some of the standing committees meet in the "carry-over" period? If so, what new regulations will be required?

The Senator stated that he favored retaining the Legislative Council and using some standing committee representation in interim periods. Whatever changes are recommended it was considered very important that the Council, through possibly a Rules, Procedure, and Budget Committee would retain control over the meetings and organization in interim periods. If the Council should be enlarged or if standing committees (or subcommittees thereof) met in the interim, coordination would be more important to be sure there were adequate staff services for each committee. Senator Smith suggested that perhaps the Council law should specify more of the leadership of the legislature as ex officio members in order to emphasize both continuity and coordination in the overall activities of the legislature. The Speaker of the House concurred with Senator Smith and agreed also, that the Ways and Means Committee people of the two houses should not attend the Governor's budget appeal hearings as their presence would tend to destroy the purpose of the hearings.

Both Senator Smith and Representative Conard believed that the number of committees in each house should be reduced by about one-half. It was agreed that any major committee reorganization should not occur until the 1969 Session of the Legislature.

It was the consensus of the Committee that if standing committees or subcommittees should meet during the interim, that members should be paid for their actual days of service. Generally, the members agreed that the Senate Reapportionment Committee was one committee which should be allowed to hold some meetings between sessions in 1967-68.

The Committee will continue to discuss the changes in procedures that are needed as a result of the annual session amendment. Also, a report on the progress of the Revisor of Statutes on the statutory search for implementing the annual session amendment will be made.

The meeting was adjourned.