

THE CHAIRMAN: Is your question finished?

DELEGATE MASON: My question is, was it your testimony that the governor of Maryland is a weak governor?

DELEGATE ADKINS: I prefer to use the term "weak type governor" because I do not think you can categorize a single individual as being weak or strong. The structure of Maryland's executive branch at the moment is, I think generally conceded by people who have studied it, to be of the weak type. By that I mean, and I think they mean, that the governor does not have the power to choose his own major appointees in the main; the only thing which really keeps him from being a very weak governor is the strong budget-making power which he now has, and which is crucial, of course, to the exercise of his duties. I think it is fair to say that the structure of the office of governor is generally considered to be a weak type, yes, in comparison with some other states, such as New York and others.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: Delegate Adkins, in determining whether or not the structure of the office is weak or strong, what are the indicia for making such a determination?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: I would suggest there are three; first, whether or not he has a strong budget-making power, which he does in Maryland; secondly would be the question of whether or not he has the right to employ and discharge major policy-making officials in his administration which in Maryland in many instances he does not. Did I say there were three?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: It is suggested to me from the floor that the power of reorganization is certainly one with which I would agree, and I would have to amend it to four. I have one other in mind which escapes me for the moment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: How about the right to veto?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: I would not agree with that because I do not believe

there is any governor in the fifty states that does not have the right to veto; so I do not think that that is a criterion of whether he is a strong or weak governor.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: I do not want to get into an argument. North Carolina does not have the right to veto.

I would suggest you disagree with the National Municipal League which sets up these particular standards.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: It is perfectly possible. I find myself in disagreement with almost everyone on some issues at some time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: Another criterion to determine whether the governor is strong is the question of the length of his term, is that not correct?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: I might say that might be if you are talking about a one- or two-year term, yes. However, I do not consider that a critical condition.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: A Maryland governor has a four-year term and can be re-elected; so you would not consider that an indicia.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: I do not think that makes him a strong governor. It would make him strong if he were up for reelection each year, but I do not think that makes him a strong governor or a strong type.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions, Delegate Mason?

DELEGATE MASON: Do you know in the State of Maryland the governor appoints sixty per cent or more of his department heads?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: I am curious to know the source of your information. Do you mean sixty per cent or more? What is the source of that statistic? I have not heard that used.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mason.

DELEGATE MASON: If you will read the booklet on states, they have all these