

a bill shall become law if the governor signs or fails to veto it.

Well, I assume that under section 4.03 the Chairman of the Committee and the majority of the Committee construes power to sign a bill as being one of the duties of the governor that could be delegated to the lieutenant governor.

May I ask a question if that is a correct understanding?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan, do you follow the inquiry?

DELEGATE MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, that was the statement that I made yesterday.

THE CHAIRMAN: I am not clear as to what your statement was. If you would repeat so that we will all understand.

DELEGATE MORGAN: That the governor may delegate any of his duties to the lieutenant governor and among the duties, as an example of the duties he could delegate would be the duty to veto bills.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gleason's question as I understand it is section 4.16 specifically says that a bill shall become law if the governor signs or fails to veto it.

Do I understand that you are saying that notwithstanding the language of section 4.16, the governor could delegate that power to veto or sign a bill to the lieutenant governor?

DELEGATE MORGAN: Yes. I think, Mr. Chairman, all of the sections of the constitution have to be read together. You cannot take just one and read it and say, this is the way we have to construe this section.

Now, for example, under another section, the governor, by right giving to the temporary governor, says he will be temporarily unable to perform duties of his office and the lieutenant governor can then perform the functions of the office of governor.

Now, this delegation to a lieutenant governor can apply to some of the functions. I think all of these sections have to be read together and, in my opinion, any of the functions of the governor can be delegated to the lieutenant governor.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gleason, do you have a further question?

DELEGATE GLEASON: I have another question, Mr. Chairman. I guess I have to really ask it to the sponsor of the proposed amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot, do you yield to a question?

DELEGATE CHABOT: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gleason.

DELEGATE GLEASON: What would be the situation if a governor notifies the lieutenant governor in writing that he is temporarily unable to carry out the duties of his office and there is need to have bills signed or vetoed. Are you assuming that situation, that those bills will automatically just become law, because the governor is not there to sign them himself, assuming your amendment is carried?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: No. Under those circumstances, section 4.07 says that the lieutenant governor shall serve as acting governor. We have made constitutional provisions that for all purposes, except the purposes of putting into play the recapture of the office by the governor, the lieutenant governor takes over the job. This, of course, requires a writing. Section 4.03 does not require anything, presumably just a word in passing would be sufficient to delegate power under section 4.03.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gleason.

DELEGATE GLEASON: This is what I wanted to get very clear, that your amendment will not cast any doubt or modification with respect to section 4.07. It just applies to section 4.03, is that correct?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: That is correct.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gleason.

DELEGATE GLEASON: Then, Mr. Chairman, I do think this is a very fundamental change that has to be made in this provision. I have to agree with the sponsor of this amendment that, where we are dealing with an act of the legislature, we are dealing with the governor's participation in that act. We are dealing with something that almost partakes of a sacred nature with respect to a bill becoming law and I do not think that any lieutenant governor should be delegated this kind of power for the convenience of the governor, just because he happens to be temporarily out of Annapolis or out of the State making a speech some place. Even though we are providing in this section for a lieutenant governor, I do not think anyone should be kidding ourselves. People elect the governor. They do not look as carefully at the