

THE PRESIDENT: Seconded?

(The motion was duly seconded.)

THE PRESIDENT: All those in favor say Aye; opposed, No. The Ayes have it. It is so ordered.

(Whereupon, at 3:05 P.M. the Convention resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole.)

(The mace was removed by the Sergeant-at-Arms.)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

NOVEMBER 30, 1967—3:05 P.M.

PRESIDENT H. VERNON ENEY,
PRESIDING

THE CHAIRMAN: The Committee of the Whole will please come to order.

We resume consideration of Committee Recommendation EB-1. We had concluded with Amendment No. 16 and were about to consider Amendment No. 17.

The Chair would like to inquire of Delegate Morgan whether it would be desirable for him to make any announcements as to action of his Committee before we resume consideration of the amendments.

Delegate Morgan.

DELEGATE MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, the amendments that were adopted by the Committee are in the process of being printed at the present time. We do have the attorney general amendment, which was unanimously agreed to by the Committee, but the rest of the amendments which are smaller in nature are not yet ready and they will be ready in due course.

I would suggest at this time that Delegate Maurer offer her second amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Very well. Amendment No. 17 is proposed by Delegate Maurer. Is it seconded?

(The amendment was duly seconded.)

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment having been seconded, the Chair recognizes Delegate Maurer to speak to the amendment.

DELEGATE MAURER: Mr. Chairman, the effect of the Amendment No. 17 is to provide that all heads of principal departments will be single executives, except in the event that the state public school sys-

tem or any of the institutions of higher learning are set up as principal departments.

The Minority Report as it was drawn, I felt, did a disservice to the school system and to the institutions of higher learning. They provided that if they should become a principal department, then the head of it would be a single executive, in that event doing away with the State Board of Education and the Regents of the University.

As this amendment is drawn, it sets up the exception and provides for single executives to head other agencies.

While I have been in on the debates in the Committee very strong in my conviction that the school system, both regular schools and the schools representing higher learning should be in a relatively protected position I have changed my position on other departments, but in all this time no other group has spoken for the maintenance of a board to head their particular department. That is, I have not seen and not heard of any requests that there be either a board to head the principal department which might deal with health or with welfare, and I suggest that this amendment would provide a clean line of organization in our executive branch.

Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Morgan.

DELEGATE MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment proposed by Delegate Maurer.

It seems to me that there may be occasions when the legislature would deem it essential to have a board or commission head a principal department. For example, if the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs should be a principal department, why it is necessary to have various interests on the Bay represented on the board to head that principal department.

I just do not believe it is a wise thing to do to put the legislature in a straight-jacket and say, "You have got to do it this way, and no other way", and I think there may be many reasons, many occasions where you require a continuity of policy or you require regional representation or representation of various interests.

I think it may be very necessary for the legislature to have a board or a commission head a principal department of government in that case, and for that reason I am opposed to the amendment, Mr. Chairman.