

sidering the separate sovereignties of the separate units of government, is to be able to ask for whatever information they may have within their knowledge, and if they do not have the information, I am not sure that even under this provision they would be required to incur any major expenses to secure the information.

I think that the word is simply information, and it has to be taken in the context of the relationship between the separate sovereignties, and that is merely to provide information that they have available.

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

DELEGATE MORGAN: It is true, Delegate Sickles, that section 4.25 says, "the governor may at any time require information in writing or otherwise." It seems to me that that really almost forces the governor to impose certain standards on the local subdivisions of government, of keeping records of this, that and the other thing, and I really think that it will impose substantial expenses on local government.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: Inasmuch as we have a uniform system of accounting already, I am not concerned about using this device to establish that kind of uniformity.

I am using this device in order to secure information which is within the knowledge of respective units of government, but not to require them to go out and make studies in order to secure this knowledge.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Delegate Adkins.

DELEGATE ADKINS: Delegate Sickles, would you undertake to provide a definition for me of what you mean by "officer"?

THE CHAIRMAN: You mean in line 6 of the amendment?

DELEGATE ADKINS: Yes, in line 6 of the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: I would assume that this would be the classic distinction between officer and employee and as you probably know better than I the whole line of cases which bear on that. I would not want to confuse the matter more as to who are officers and who are employees. It means those who are elected and key ap-

pointive officials and who the courts have determined by a series of cases are either officers or appointees.

DELEGATE ADKINS: Could the governor go beyond an elected county council and require people in that county council to give him information over and above the objection of the county council?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: I would assume that the employee would be governed by the terms of his employment and if the county council forbade him, he would not have the authority to do it despite what it says here. I assume that that would be a proper interpretation.

DELEGATE ADKINS: I think that is an interesting interpretation.

If that is proper, I would have less objection, but I frankly do not see how you can maintain that. At any rate, you have answered the question.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions of the sponsor?

Delegate Freedlander.

DELEGATE FREEDLANDER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to direct a question to Delegate Sickles.

THE CHAIRMAN: Proceed.

DELEGATE FREEDLANDER: The Committee on Local Government has prepared a resolution asking that there be established by the General Assembly a department of local affairs to assist the counties in the establishment of their home rule and other affairs.

If such a department is provided, would that not come under the article as it is now written?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.

DELEGATE SICKLES: I am not sure I understand the last part of your question.

THE CHAIRMAN: She says if such a bureau or department is established, would it then be covered under section 4.25 as it is in the committee recommendation without the amendment.

Is that your question, Delegate Freedlander?

DELEGATE FREEDLANDER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Sickles.