

place over the weekend. He is absent this week because he is in the hospital undergoing treatments for the entire week. I talked to Mrs. Miller this morning. She tells me he is coming along fine.

The treatments are for the purpose of enabling him to continue his work here. He expects to be here Monday.

*(Applause)*

This will be Amendment No. 18 to Committee Recommendation LB-1.

The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 18 to Committee Recommendation LB-1 by Delegates Bard, Gleason, Miller, Sollins and Hanson: On pages 2 and 3 of Committee Recommendation LB-1 strike all of section 3.12, Legislative Sessions, and insert in lieu thereof the following section: "Section 3.12. Legislative Sessions

The General Assembly shall meet in regular annual sessions convening on the third Wednesday of January of each year unless otherwise prescribed by law. The governor may convene at special session of the General Assembly at any time and must convene a special session upon the written request of three-fifths of all the members of each house."

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bard, do you move the amendment?

DELEGATE BARD: Mr. Chairman, would you please give us the privilege of dealing with lines 8 to the middle of 11 prescribed by law first and should this pass we would then move to the next sentence, but we think that the continuation of debate and the discussion and vote ought to be on those two issues.

Mr. Chairman, as long as I have the floor—

THE CHAIRMAN: Just a second.

Is the amendment seconded?

*(Whereupon, the amendment was duly seconded.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair will divide the question as requested and recognize Delegate Bard to speak to the amendment. At the proper time, the question will be divided so we will consider first the first sentence in lines 8 to 11 and therefore if the first is adopted, consider the second sentence in lines 11 to 15.

Delegate Bard.

DELEGATE BARD: Mr. Chairman, do I now have the privilege of calling upon different individuals who have expressed a desire—

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Bard, you have control of twenty minutes of time.

You can use as much as you choose and allocate the rest in any manner you choose.

DELEGATE BARD: I should like first to give three minutes of that time to Delegate Gleason.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gleason.

DELEGATE BARD: I am changing that to five minutes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gleason, you are recognized for five minutes to speak in favor of the amendment.

DELEGATE GLEASON: Let me say, Mr. Chairman, I hope it is only three.

Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, we are dealing here in this amendment with which we shall set probably the most difficult question and critical issue that came before the Legislative Branch Committee outside of the question of the size of the legislative body. The issue involved here in essence is determination as to what is the nature of a legislator; that question, of course, can only be judged by what kind of job that individual has to do.

Many individuals do feel, and many of the people that come before our Committee felt that a legislator here in Annapolis is really only here to handle the executive budget of the government. These people feel that a legislator should have no time to investigate problems on his own, no time to study the solutions of the many different problems that face him and face our state.

Their fundamental concern, when you take away all the wrappings, is if you leave the legislative group to decide the length of its session, it will stay in session too long and will do more harm than good. When you really interrogate what their real concern is, this is what it simplifies itself down to.

Many people argued before the Committee that the federal Congress is meeting in recent years on a practically around-the-clock basis. I would submit for your consideration that that argument is rather specious, specious on two kinds of grounds. First of all, the Congress of the U. S. deals with a multitude of problems that affect