

A 30-day session was entirely too short to consider the budget, so they amended that constitutional amendment to make it 170 days, and the only reason they did that was to get an increase in salary.

We increased the 90 days to 90 and 30 day annual sessions because we were receiving \$5.00 a day and many of us were paying to Carvel Hall \$7.50 for a room, after receiving \$5 for that. We did raise our salary then up to \$1,000, and we changed the date of the session; we are now changing the dates of the session to give \$2,400. Ladies and gentlemen, 90 days was always regarded as enough time to consider both general legislation and the budget.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Della, you have one minute.

DELEGATE DELLA: Thank you.

The biggest thing that persuaded me to have a constitutional amendment was to give the business world an opportunity to survey what the General Assembly had done and to cause their sights, through taxation and regulations, to regulate their business for the rest of the year. I think that is one of the more important reasons that led many of the members of the Committee to go along with a constitutional restriction of 90-30-30.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Byrnes to speak in favor of the amendment.

DELEGATE BYRNES: Mr. Chairman, I had the honor and the opportunity last session to serve in an administrative capacity with the legislature in the Senate. I was responsible for legislative analysis and for administration of that committee and I can tell you without the slightest hesitation that the 90 days is completely insufficient for creative response to the legislation. They can respond but they cannot respond creatively.

I think what they should have, is perhaps two days a week all year, or a meeting every other month. There is value in that. Another suggestion might be that they meet in session for a month, and in committees for a month. There is value in that.

I think the issue before us is not whether 90 days is sufficient, plus 30 plus 30 because I say again 90 is not sufficient, but rather whether or not the Legislature should in the future, 20, 30, 40 years from now, have the ability to adjust to the circumstances that I am confident face them

now and will face them with ever-increasing fervor in the future.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Delegate Harry Taylor?

DELEGATE H. TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, may it please the Committee of the Whole, I rise to speak against the amendment. In doing so, I will tell you of Murphy's Law, something about the General Assembly and insomnia in less than three minutes.

Murphy's Law is "A job will expand to fill the time in which you have to do it." If you have a little time, you will do the work, you go do it effectively, you will not dawdle, you will get the job done.

I think this Convention is probably a good demonstration of the operation of Murphy's Law.

We optimists look toward December 12 and are making plans to do other things on December 13. If we had more time, the ship would not be run as tight, the amendment to the rules limiting debate would not be necessary. This is what we need in the General Assembly. If the General Assembly were able to set its time, they would not get down to work quickly doing the effective important work that they need to do. They would spread it out a little bit, but if you give them a time deadline, they will do the important things and let the less important things go.

Getting to insomnia, I have heard many times that there are many good citizens of Maryland who say that they never sleep well until the General Assembly adjourns sine die. I for one will not contribute to keeping these people awake.

*(Applause)*

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor?

The Chair recognizes Delegate Grumbacher.

DELEGATE GRUMBACHER: In the first place, I do not conceive the job of the legislature as one to keep the governor happy, although I advise him on that. I consider it the job of the legislature also to make sure that the people of Maryland sleep well. The job of the legislature is to participate in the governing of Maryland, to pass laws necessary for the governing of our state.