

1 that the General Assembly and counties have been dealing
2 with and now you are getting into the question of
3 whether regional governments should have home rule.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: That is precisely the point
5 and we might as well vote and then go to lunch.

6 It seems to me that you have put your
7 finger on exactly what it is and that is the question
8 of whether regional governments shall have home rule.
9 We give the counties home rule. The only difference it
10 seems to me between the counties and the region is
11 that with respect to the county we are saying that it
12 has all the powers of local government except what is
13 withdrawn by general act of the Legislature.

14 You can't do that with regions because it
15 would be inconsistent with the action as to counties.
16 Therefore, you have got to have machinery to do the
17 reverse for regions. You have got to give them an
18 expressed grant of power. It seems to me, however, that
19 subject to that one limitation the procedure ought to
20 be the same, namely that the General Assembly's power
21 to grant or withdraw powers from a region should be only