

HJR

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To: Mike
From: Roger

March 20, 1985

HJR 23 The Speaker's Office has a new requirement to have a fiscal note with all resolutions. This is impossible for this resolution, since it is asking various federal representatives to deal with an issue over the U.S. Custom's Office, which is not a state agency. I called Jeannie in Rules and she said we clearly did not need a FN for this, and she would check on it and clear it for certain.

The other part of it is that I called Representative Martin's office on this issue and left a message asking for back up on March 15; and then I called them again on March 19 and left another message. Donna took a call back from Jeff Logan, Martin's aide, saying they didnt need to supply any backup to us and the bill was obvious and could be easily explained. So, if they don't want to supply any backup and consider it unimportant, I don't feel obligated to get it and do their work for them. They could have gotten information like 1) how many customs offices does the headquarters office control; 2) why the feds feel that Alaska, Washington and Oregon would move the office to Chicago, which doesnt even make sense; 4) how many customs inspectors there are now; 5) how many more are needed to ensure "expeditious movement,"; etc.

We have no idea at all why the feds are planning to do this, and no back up to support it. I think either Martin or his aide are being a little arrogant here. Typically, sponsors do not provide much backup on resolutions, and a lot of them provide minimal information on bills. I think it often ends up hurting their case, because I have discovered that often if there is no backup the legislators get nervous, no matter how good the bill or resolution is. The general policy of our Committee and many others is not to hear a bill without back-up; resolutions fall into a funny intermediate zone. It's your choice; Im obviously a little irritated with Martin's office on this and not very objective. They sort of acted like they run the Committee by telling us what we need or don't need for a hearing.

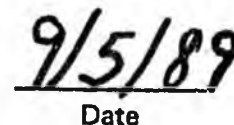


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