

"Too many of us are disposed to seek aid and comfort from the government (which is given us by the expenditure of our own tax money) instead of solving our own problems, as was the habit in days of yore." — S. Lloyd Frisbie, Polk County (Fla.) Democrat.

Getting Bills Out of Committee Can Be Done, Assemblyman Says

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
 Assemblyman, 46th District
 For the first time during the 11 years that I have been a Member of the Assembly, I have received a large number of letters from people who ask what can be done when a bill which they favor is killed by an Assembly Committee, tabled, or otherwise disposed of in such manner that the bill does not reach the floor of the Assembly for a vote.

The answer to this question is found in Rule No. 108 of the Permanent Rules of the Assembly, which reads as follows: "MOTION to Withdraw and

Recall Bills.
 "108. A motion to withdraw a bill or resolution from committee, or to re-refer a bill or resolution from one committee to another committee may be made during the regular order of business. A motion to re-refer shall only be debatable as to the propriety of such reference, and shall require a recorded vote of a majority of the elected members.

"No bill or resolution shall be withdrawn from committee and placed upon the file except upon two days' notice thereof and except by a recorded vote of a majority of the

IN PRACTICE, the Member of the Assembly wishing to withdraw a bill from committee rises on the floor at the proper time and simply announces that on the second legislative day he will move to withdraw A.B. — (giving the number of the bill) from the Assembly Committee on — (naming the Committee which has the bill bottled up). Then, two days later, the same Member must make his motion for withdrawal, obtain a second to the motion and present arguments for withdrawing the bill.

Normally, he encounters opposition. Members who do not want the bill on the floor arise and argue against the motion. The Member who made the motion is allowed to make a concluding argument and then there is a roll call. If 41 Members of the Assembly vote "aye," the bill comes out of committee and takes its position on the waiting list with other bills. Within a few days it comes up for debate and voting.

IN THEORY, any Member of the Assembly can make a motion for withdrawal by following the procedure set forth above. In practice, the principal author of the bill is the one who makes the motion. The reason is that if the principal author thinks he has enough votes to get the bill out of committee and also enough votes to have it passed by the Assembly and sent to the Senate, he does exactly what I have outlined, but if he does not think he has the votes, he may not want to try withdrawal because if he loses, it jeopardizes the chance of passing the bill at a later session of the Legislature.

Furthermore, if a bill is taken out of a committee, the principal author is the one expected to do most of the work to ensure its passage, not only in the Assembly, but also in the Senate.

THERE IS ONE exception to this unwritten rule that it is the duty of the principal author of the bill to make the motion to withdraw his own bill from committee (if he wants to do this), and that occurs in the case of a bill or resolution which is primarily either a Republican Party bill or resolution or a Democratic Party bill or resolution.

In that case, the floor leader of the political party which wants the bill taken out of committee may ask the author of the bill to do the work and then, if the author of the bill fails or refuses to take action, the political party leader takes over the functions described above.

THE MAJORITY Floor Leader of the Assembly is the Honorable William A. Munnell, Democratic Member of the Assembly from the 51st Assembly District, who lives in Montebello. The Minority Floor Leader of the Assembly is the Honorable Joseph C. Shell, Republican Member of the Assembly from the 58th Assembly District, who lives in Los Angeles. Both of these floor leaders are dynamic young gentlemen who have been personal friends of mine for many years. They are always glad to get mail and will give any request you send them prompt and personal attention.

Little Leagues Head Use List

More than 3300 requests for use of school facilities were received from community organizations during the third quarter of the school year, with Little Leagues leading the list, according to a report to the Board of Education.

The Civic Center Act provides for use of the schools by outside community organizations. Little League had 1965 permits for use of school property, followed by university extension courses with 396. Scouting groups used facilities 336 times. Other major users included the Lomita Sports Com-

mittee, Southwest Park Civic Assn., South Bay Piston Popers Model Airplane Club. Other users included PTA's civic groups, service clubs homeowners' groups, and charities.

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