

We believe that in many cases in the United States legislatures are larger than desirable."

The Committee on Economic Development is a conservative organization. It has this to say on size, at page 36:

"Most legislatures are far too large; only ten have 100 members or less, while eight have over 200. New Hampshire has one legislator for every 1500 inhabitants in its lower house, in contrast to one for every 200,000 in California. There is little merit in trying to set an arbitrary optimum on the number of people each member of the legislature should represent, but the size of each body affects its ability to function effectively. Fewer members permit more individual participation, improve deliberation, elevate the importance—and hence the quality—of membership, lead to better compensation, and facilitate stronger staffings. In our view, no legislature should have more than 100 members. Small states and those with unicameral systems may obtain adequate representation with far fewer than that number."

The order of the day really is well paid professional legislators, people who would concentrate upon representation at state levels, and not numbers but quality. The adoption of compulsory home rule will certainly emphasize the state legislative character of the state legislator.

Herbert L. Wilson, Director of the Southern Office of the Council of State Governments, in a speech before the Texas legislature, said this:

"While the move is proceeding at a different pace from one state to another, since, of course states differ widely in the complexity of the problems which their legislatures face, the unmistakable fact is that our law-makers are having to devote increasing amounts of time to the core work of legislating. Consequently, the extent to which it will be possible to retain the values of the 'citizen-legislator' tradition and to enable young and middle-aged people to combine legislative service with their professional and business careers, are questions of major importance which more and more States will have to face during the coming years."

We are face to face with that situation at the moment.

The maximum membership should be fixed in the Constitution at a relatively low

level, and I think we can look at the practical examples of New Jersey, which is a State comparable in size to Maryland, which has just adopted the 40-80 ratio; and to California, a large State, maybe 20 million people, which has adopted this plan as a practical method of securing a fair type of representation and effective organization.

I think that we simply will not be doing anything if we organize our legislature so that we will have bodies in which the large portion of the membership is second-class citizens, shall we say.

Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions of the minority spokesman for purposes of clarification of the Minority Report?

Delegate Kahl.

DELEGATE KAHL: Senator James, I am a little nebulous about how this 40-80 membership would run. Would you explain that a little more, please?

DELEGATE JAMES: We simply have 40 senatorial districts in the State, and they would be single-member districts. Is that the point you wanted clarified?

DELEGATE KAHL: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does that answer your question?

DELEGATE KAHL: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Delegate Bushong.

DELEGATE BUSHONG: I would like to ask Senator James how many counties would lose any representation?

DELEGATE JAMES: I think if you figure it this way, that you would have in the State of Maryland at the next census four million people, one senator would represent 100,000 people. I do not think that you can organize the Senate or the House on a county basis, in the light of one-man/one-vote. The adoption of compulsory home rule simply means that the legislators are going to represent people. They are not going to represent governmental units, and the sooner we recognize that this is the fact of life, I think the better off we will be.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Byrnes.

DELEGATE BYRNES: Delegate James,