

1 unicameralists recognize this argument, that this is a  
2 possible reform of the bicameral system. Now, it might  
3 be quite helpful to point out, though -- and again, I  
4 don't know here about the particular Maryland experience --  
5 that basic work in the legislature is done in committees  
6 and, if you have joint committee hearings, you have  
7 actually taken a major step toward a unicameral legisla-  
8 ture and the argument is, why do you have joint hearings  
9 and then go to separate legislative consideration.

10 MR. DELIA: Actually, what they do in the  
11 legislature, there are no official joint committees, that  
12 I know of, and I've been working around there for fifteen  
13 years, other than occasionally they have a joint committee  
14 on the budget, as such. So that both houses have the same  
15 knowledge of what has been discussed, so that when the  
16 appropriations or the budget comes before the committees,  
17 they are going to talk in the same line of thinking.

18 However, in the hearings, they have sometimes  
19 joint hearings between the house and senate committees in  
20 order to expedite the time -- so that the members of both  
21 houses can hear the testimony presented and they do not