

Japanese American Citizens League

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REGIONAL DIRECTOR

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Chapter Presidents
Redress Representatives

Date: May 8, 1980

From: Bill Yoshino

Subject: S. 1647

The Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs met today in executive session to consider the facts on S. 1647. The committee voted 11-0 for approval of the bill.

It must be noted that six members of that committee are from States comprising the Midwest District. It must also be noted that each of those six midwestern Senators; Charles Percy, Thomas Eagleton, John Danforth, John Glenn, Carl Levin and David Durenburger were present at the Committee session. It must finally be noted that each voted their approval of S. 1647.

The next step in the process is reporting the bill to the full senate for consideration. I might also add that the bill did undergo some changes in mark-up. I will forward the amended version shortly.

This is by no means the end of the process. It is certainly an encouraging sign, however, we still have the full Senate and The House process to contend with.

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On other matters, I have petitioned the Health Insurance Committee for an extension of coverage to MDC. I will keep you informed as I receive information.

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Enclosed is a diagram of the legislative process as well as the Northern California proposal for proportional voting at the National Council.

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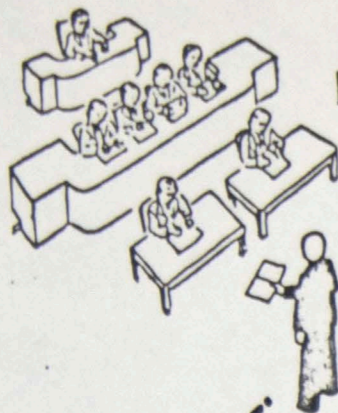
Thanks for your continuing efforts on the Redress bill.

S. 1647

Aug. 2, 1979

How a bill ...

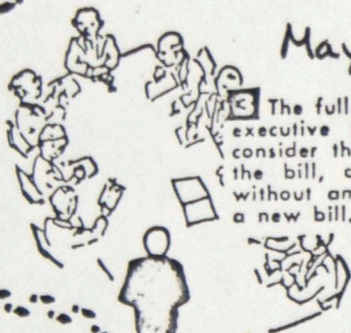
Mar. 18, 1980



1 Most bills can be introduced in either house. The procedure by which a bill becomes a law is much the same regardless of where the bill originates. In this story, the bill is first introduced in the Senate. It is given a number and referred to the proper committee.



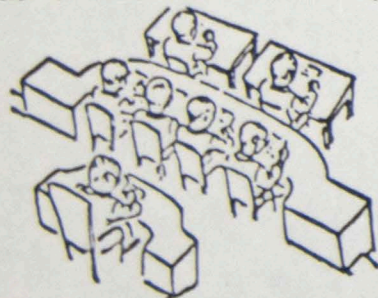
2 The committee holds public hearings on the bill.



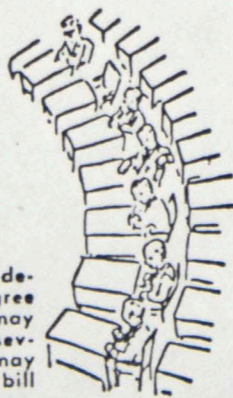
May 8, 1980

3 The full committee meets in executive (closed) session to consider the facts. It may kill the bill, approve it with or without amendments, or draft a new bill.

4 The committee recommends the bill for passage. It is then listed on the calendar.

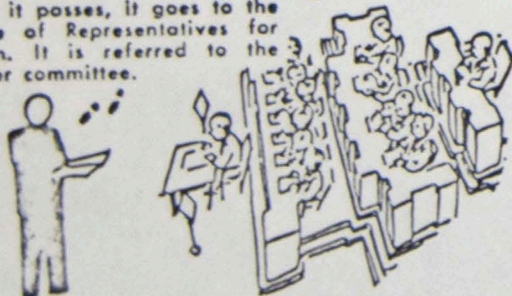


5 The bill comes up for debate. Depending on the degree of controversy, debates may last from a few hours to several weeks. Amendments may or may not be added. The bill is then voted on.



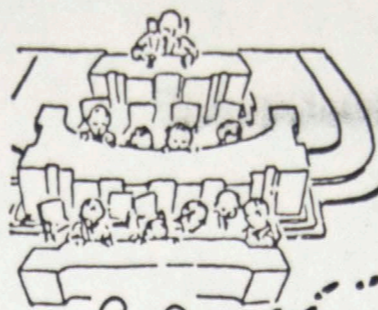
Sept. 28, 1979

6 If it passes, it goes to the House of Representatives for action. It is referred to the proper committee.



7 Hearings may be held.

8 The committee rejects the bill, prepares a new one, or accepts the bill with or without amendments.



11 It goes before the entire body, is debated and voted on.

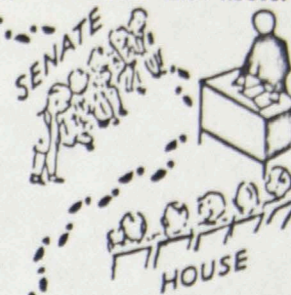


10 The Rules Committee is one of the most powerful of the committees in the House of Representatives. After a bill has been recommended for passage by the committee to which it was referred, the Rules Committee can block it or clear it for debate before the entire House.

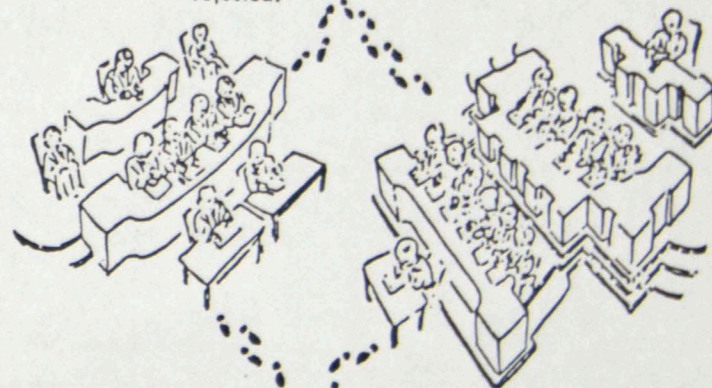


9 The committee recommends the bill for passage. It is listed on the calendar and is sent to the Rules Committee.

12 If the bill is passed by the second body but contains major differences, either house may request a conference committee. The conferees meet and try to reconcile their differences. Representing both parties, five conferees are usually appointed from each house.



13 Generally, they reach an agreement. They report back to their respective houses. The report is accepted or rejected.



14 If the report is accepted by both houses, the bill is signed by the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, and is sent to the President of the United States.



15 The President may sign or veto the bill within 10 days. If he doesn't sign within 10 days and Congress is still in session, the bill automatically becomes law. If Congress has adjourned before the 10 days have elapsed and the President has not signed the bill, it does not become law. This is known as a "pocket veto." If the President returns the bill with a veto message, it may still become law if passed by two-thirds majority in each house.



... Becomes a law.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

We hereby submit the following proposed amendment for adoption by 3/4 majority vote of the chartered chapters present at the National JACL 25th Biennial Convention.

SPONSOR NCWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

APPROVAL:

CHAPTER (DATE) _____

DISTRICT COUNCIL YES NO DATE 11/18/79

NATIONAL BOARD YES NO DATE _____

(Must have approval of District Council or National Board)

A. ARTICLE <u>VIII</u> SECTION <u>1</u>	B. PROPOSED CHANGE(S)														
	<p>National Council sessions votes shall be cast upon the basis of chapters in good standing and such other chapters duly recognized by the National Council. The vote shall be cast in alphabetical order. Each chapter shall be entitled to proportionate votes as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>25 to 150 members</td><td>1 vote</td></tr> <tr><td>151 to 350 members</td><td>2 votes</td></tr> <tr><td>351 to 550 members</td><td>3 votes</td></tr> <tr><td>551 to 750 members</td><td>4 votes</td></tr> <tr><td>751 to 950 members</td><td>5 votes</td></tr> <tr><td>951 to 1150 members</td><td>6 votes</td></tr> <tr><td>1150 and over</td><td>7 votes</td></tr> </table> <p>Further the chairperson of each District Youth Council shall be entitled to one vote.</p> <p>THIS PROPOSED AMENDMENT IS DESIGNATED AS ARTICLE VI, SECTION I of the newly proposed Constitution/Bylaws by National Revision Committee.</p>	25 to 150 members	1 vote	151 to 350 members	2 votes	351 to 550 members	3 votes	551 to 750 members	4 votes	751 to 950 members	5 votes	951 to 1150 members	6 votes	1150 and over	7 votes
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C. RATIONALE

To change the method of voting to more truly represent the membership, according to the number of members. There is a decreasing proportionate number of members who actively participate as the membership number grows. This change would rekindle a greater interest by the membership to participate at every level of the organization.

The alternate method of creating greater involvement is to limit the size of a chapter. There would be no grandfathering clause. There would be set a mechanism to trigger the formation of new chapters.

Either method would increase the number of votes from any given area or district.

Amendment No. _____
Adopted (Date) _____
Signature (Chairman, Constitution & By-Laws Committee)
