

16 March 2021

To: Senate Committee on Rules

Re: Senate Bill 261

Dear Chair Senator Wagner, Vice-Chair Senator Girod, and members of the Committee:

If it were possible, I am more than wholly opposed to SB 261, which is an obvious and blatant legislative tactic to punish members of the legislature from some imagined poor behavior.

*Unexcused absences*, eh? As if grown adults are children being admonished by the elementary school hall monitor. However, childish behavior is precisely what the (un-named) sponsors of this bill are exhibiting. In the real world, an *unexcused absence* is only such—until it isn't.

Upon first viewing this proposal might hold some water. But given more consideration this is a meaningless bill and a waste of the legislature's time. A bone tossed to the majority party's supporters.

Although no "sponsor(s)" are given it is obvious to all this bill is merely a juvenile "get even" tactic being attempted by members of the majority political party.

As for such *unexcused absences* that this bill alleges to address. I applaud any slow-downs to the mind bending speed at which many of our legislators believe they must hurry to "do something," with it's requisite speeding through the legislative process.

Precisely when, if ever, is our legislature not attempting to do too much in too little time? With several hundred bills acted on in a given session that is little time spent on the intricacies of any piece of legislation. With a closed capitol building and only minutes allowed for constituents to voice their opinions it is not surprising that so much revision, i.e., correcting mistakes, that must be done further down the road on so many pieces of legislation.

If this bill is passed out of committee it will merely prove that retribution is the aim of the un-named sponsors of this bill.

Again I urge you to table this bill.

Sincerely,



Richard Wisner