

KNOX WALKUP

April 19, 1982

I talked with Knox (and Dan a little) about co-sponsorship. As usual, Knox was very guarded and vague about what he said.

But he said that co-sponsorship grew out of several sources (1) Dear Colleague letters (2) Constituent requests and/or mentions--including organized group requests from back home (3) Democratic caucus meetings when everyone is urged probably to get behind a bill (4) colleagues one on one in the cloak room.

So the major new idea here is that a lot of this comes from constituents. Thus, a constituency-oriented Senator might do a lot of co-sponsoring.

They said DP was usually sees the thing before they cosponsor anything. He said he established a "low threshold" concerning what he could sign without DP's approval.

He said there are a lot of non-substantive resolutions and they should be weeded out if you did analysis.

He said Judiciary Committee requires 25 signatures before they will vote out any resolution. And that drives up everyone's total number of cosp.

He didn't see much diff. between "original cosponsor" and other cosponsor.

Said "It was important to have bill known as the "Chiles-Pryor bill" (re former presidents) but that was an informal thing and not available.