

PAUL MICHEL

March 25, 1982

Ran into Paul in the elevator and asked him about markup.

*No Markup*

"As a result of a huddle we had with Arlen for about an hour on Monday we decided to try and poll the bill out of the subcommittee, by getting written consent of the members. We'll also have to poll it out of the other subcommittee to which it was jointly referred--the subcommittee on criminal law. That shouldn't be hard, now that we have administration support and the support of the DA's association. The second part of the strategy is to get as many cosponsors from the full Judiciary Committee as we can. So Bruce and his sidekicks have begun to talk to their counterparts on the staffs of the other Senators. The third part of the strategy is to squelch any possible opposition from other groups of the sort that usually get called upon to comment on legislation in this area--the Association of Policy Chiefs, the Association of State Attorneys General, etc."

"I have dropped everything and I'm devoting all my attention to writing a report. I'm trying to make it as powerful as I can. It is filled with facts and figures, testimony from the hearings, statements by everyone from the President on down. We not only have the anecdotes, we have the generalizations. This will be a help when we take the bill to the full committee and it ought to be pretty much the report that goes to the floor. It will help at several stages. It will even help Bruce and Kevin to make their arguments with staff. Whether or not it will help to have this 100page document I don't know. But it might. And on that chance, I'm spending all my time on it. In the end what will decide the issue will not be the report but two things. Is the bill considered good politics? I think it is and it will be considered to be so. And more important than that will be Arlen Specter's reputation as a man who knows this field up and down, backwards and forwards.

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that's the decisive thing."