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It would simply strike the...or excuse me, now that we are not any longer on an amendment, it would add to Section 13 the statement that the standing committees will complete their work by the midpoint, whether it be in a 90-day session or a 60-day session. Then we can, whatever has made it through the process at that point will be given ample time on the floor so that those bills that have made it through the process at that time can be heard and be adequately addressed. So, with that I offer this amendment to Rule 3 and hope that you will support it.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I have to try to give a little perspective to the amendment that Senator Conway is offering. Again, I want to talk about the realities of how the Legislature works. If you adopt this as a rule and put a hard and fast deadline after which hearings cannot occur, all that a "chaircreature" has to do is not schedule a bill for hearing, or schedule all the bills and let things drag out, and say that some would be scheduled beyond that date, so they don't get heard. The committee has not killed the bills, nobody has done anything to it. Some could just not be gotten in prior to the 45th day and the 30th day, respectively. With or without all the rules that exist now, or any that might be contemplated in the future, this Legislature is not going to be substantially different in the way it operates, and that is because of the characteristics and personalities of the individuals who make it up. Things don't go well, not because of the system as an abstract structure, but because of the people who make it up and work in it. If we have an inefficient committee, it is not the fact that the structure said we will have a committee, it is the fact that you have people making up that committee who don't do the work that people on a committee are to do. So, let's say you get a situation like that. You say, okay, then we'll abolish that committee and call it by a different name. Nothing has changed because the same people are there. We don't make a rose anything other than a rose by giving it a different name. And I'm not going to talk about making a silk purse out of a sow's ear because I have said that and one of the senators tried to take up the challenge and he brought me something where an attempt had been made to do what I said couldn't be done. It wasn't done, but I hope never to see such a thing in my life again, although I still have it in my office. When I want to frighten little children, who are evil, and tell them what might happen to them if they are not good, I don't really do that, but