

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

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for a cloture motion to be asked for. If a cloture motion is to be asked for, it can be done by either the principal introducer of the bill; a cointroducer with the consent of the introducer; or, if it's a committee bill, by the Chair of the committee. The presiding officer may rule such a motion out of order if he or she does not feel that there has been sufficient debate on this motion. The decision of the Chair may not be challenged and, in that case, we go right back to debating the issue at hand. If, however, a cloture motion is accepted then we will proceed, just like we do now, to the votes. If the motion does not receive the 33 votes then that will result in the motion...in the bill being taken off of the agenda for the day and will be rescheduled at the discretion of the Speaker. If the motion is not successful for the vote totals then there will have to be at least an additional two hours of debate when the bill is back on the floor. I think that pretty much takes care of how the proposal will work. So, to summarize, we have not changed the number of votes; we have eliminated the time limit; if the Speaker feel...if the presiding officer feels there has not been enough debate that will be so stated; if a cloture motion is held and it does not get the required votes then it will be off the floor and two more hours, at least, will have to be done before the cloture motion can be asked for again. If the vote...if the motion is denied because there has been not sufficient debate the successive motions for cloture then may be offered at any time. I would hope we would use discretion and common sense and not, okay, you say I can't have it at 10:23, how about at 10:24; I can't have it at 10:24, how about at 10:25. That would not be responsible. So I think I have explained this proposal and if there are any questions I would be glad to try to answer them. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Mr. Clerk, motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a priority motion. Senator Chambers would move to recommit the proposed rules changes, as offered by the Rules Committee, to...to...back to committee, recommit to committee.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on that.