

January 9, 1980

Now those who are working on the rules and are responsible for the rules, I assume can respond, but it is my interpretation that we would try to do it and that is all.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Then, Mr. President, if I may comment.

PRESIDENT: Yes, Senator Carsten, proceed.

SENATOR CARSTEN: I think that in the event that we would adjourn at, say four o'clock in the afternoon and for whatever reason we would then be leaving the capitol, we would not, whether we wanted it or not, not be able to have it until eight o'clock the next morning. That is my only concern about having it in our hands, at least, by five o'clock in the afternoon. Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, just one quick note on that particular item. It was not the intention of the subcommittee or the committee or the 168 Committee or the Rules Committee to make anything mandatory and we tried to make the language as flexible as possible and we wrote into the statement of intent on the rule this phrase: "The time period is left somewhat vague at one day. It is hoped the Speaker will attempt a full twenty-four hours of notice but the committee realizes that fifteen to eighteen hours of notice may be all that is practical." In other words, it is being left to the Speaker but we wanted to point in a certain direction, that is, asking the Speaker to try to get us some kind of notification of the agenda as much in advance as possible. I thought I might just in a general sense take one more minute of your time quickly and let you know just some of the things that the subcommittee did in gathering information on the rules. We sent a mailing to every senator requesting what elements of the rule, asking them what elements of the rules needed attention and what needed modification. We did telephone follow-ups with everybody. We sent over two hundred letters to different groups including members of the press and agency and department heads, to the lobbyists, to citizens' groups, to the legislative staff and we got all these together and we tried to put them together. There were over one hundred and fifty suggested changes and responses and then in addition to that some of the legislative staff went into the rules, the legislative rules of the different states, the Houses of Congress. They went over materials from the Councils of state governments, Mason's Rules of Legislative Procedure and even some suggestions we pulled out