

whether or not it should be treated as a bill and we felt in order to prevent those sorts of arguments from coming up and wasting valuable legislative time, that we would make it explicitly clear and remove the ambiguity. So that is why this is presented to remove a problem which you yourself must admit has created a great deal of disagreement and I think distracted from the issue at hand. I think it is our belief that we should not let arguments over language in the rules get in the way of substantive debate on legislation and, therefore, we wish to remove that ambiguity and to specifically state rejection. That is the intent of the committee to do so.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Fowler, I support your rule change, however, it seems like to me, that it is not fair to try to cover what has been done by a rule change and I do not think that LR 30 should be treated as a bill because now we are proposing a rule to treat that kind of a resolution as a bill so I just wanted to tell you and go on record that I think somebody is trying to cover their tracks because it seems to me that you shouldn't be reactive or go back and cover something that has already been done. I support your rule change but I do not support the way that whoever it is is treating LR 30 as a bill and I just wanted to go on record that I think it is wrong and I am sorry that these things have to happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, and fellow Senators, I hope that the majority of you listen because LR 30 was given to our committee as a resolution for us to hear. We have held a hearing on it and now we would like to know just exactly what we are going to do. We have conflictions in the interpretations from the Attorney General, from the Rules Committee. It has caused undue hardship and unnecessary feelings between Mr. Senator Haberman and the committee and the people on the floor of this Legislature. So I advise every one of you that are standing here talking, not knowing what is going on, to read this rule, to understand it because the committee is going to act as this Legislature tells us to act, no other way. We are not going to...if there is no guidelines from this Legislature and the Rules Committee are unclear, I will talk with Senator Haberman and find out if there is some way we can correct the misunderstanding that goes on about this bill. So please, you folks that are not listening, pay attention and know what is going on.