

January 13, 1981

I did not respond. I promised him two or three different times I would but didn't. I act that way normally. But I do like what I see here and I want to repeat, we all have preferences, we all have priorities and I think this is an excellent way to attack this unfortunate situation of not having enough time and probably we will have less time since we did what we did this morning. So, Senator Beutler, I like what I see here and I support you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, before I say anything, I would like to ask a question and perhaps the Clerk could answer it or maybe he would choose not to. To change the Speaker's order, how many votes would it take, if the Speaker sets an agenda?

CLERK: It takes thirty, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: All right, that takes care of the question I would ask, thank you. Members of the Legislature, if we have a situation as we find in #4 of Senator Beutler's sheet of merely saying that the deadline shall be designated prior to the forty-fifth legislative day, that means though it may not happen in this fashion and probably wouldn't happen in this fashion, it could be any day from the first day to the forty-fifth day or the forty-fourth, if you want to hold them strictly to the language of it being done prior to the forty-fifth day. Suppose that a Speaker would wind up in the Chair who would happen to be suffering from what Scrooge thought he was suffering from when he saw the ghost of his friend, Jacob Morley, a spot of mustard, a piece of undigested beef, and decided that this is going to be the deadline when everybody must designate a priority bill and that day happens to be the fifteenth day of the session. Then it would take thirty votes to alter that and there might be some other people suffering from the same malady, and perhaps we could only find twenty-nine people who would like to alter that. Perhaps some of the people who were not in favor of an unlimited number of bills would say, "This will be a way to teach everybody. We are going to say designate that bill right now, and if you hadn't put in so many bills, it would not be difficult for you to make this decision and we would not be in a crunch already." When I look at something which is going to be put into a rule, my mind compels me to consider all of the possible ways I can come up with that the rule can be manipulated, and since we are not setting a bracket other than the first day and the forty-fourth day, I think that is too much discretion to place at the disposal of any single member of the Legislature. So what I would like to see is a