January 13, 1981

word "extraordinary" when you are allowed to do that by a committee. All it does is make it a little tougher to justify closing a session totally to anybody other than the committee members. So I think they are minor changes but I think they are proper changes and I would ask your adortion at this time.

SFEAKER MARVEL: Are you proposing a rule change?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, it has been distributed on everybody's desk. There is a cover letter explaining it from myself and I don't think there should be any problem with it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell, your light is on. Do you wish to speak?

SENATOR NEWELL: Is there any other lights on at this time?

SPEAKER MARVEL: No, sir.

SENATOR NEWELL: I have an amendment that will take me a moment to prepare.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Newell moves to amend the Wesely proposal: (Read Newell amendment offered on page 142, Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, this amendment is a very simple one. Over the years the media has been very concerned about making it clear and written in our rules that they have all these authority. In fact, there has been motions and so forth to delineate what the exceptions might be. Those are presently the rules today. I think what we really need to do here is just continue with the practice that we have and not put anything in that would indicate other than the fact that we can have executive sessions on rare occasions, exceptional occasions as Section (b) indicates now but that we don't have to and we should not and it is not in our best interest or anyone's best interest to further define how often and how frequently and so forth in our rules these things should happen. So it really changes not the intent but only changes the extra language that the media has been anxious to get into our rules which guarantees them the right to report on executive sessions. It has always been their right. They will continue to do that unless, of course, in those extraordinary circumstances where we wish they would not and we indicate so by a vote of the committee and so forth. I have never seen that done but I don't know that it will never be done and I don't thirk we ought to write one section something that is contradictory to Section (b). And so I just want to clarify that that the media may report

18