

January 14, 1981

SPEAKER MARVEL: I guess the Chair would indicate, Senator Wesley, at the moment there is no cloture. We voted on that once. I guess the only other thing I would say is that I thought we were going to complete the work on the rules today. Is there any other discussion?
Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this morning the entire body sat and I think it is fair to say for approximately an hour you heard the most indepth presentation, whether you happen to like the guy or hate him or agree or disagree, Republican or Democrats, you had about the most complete presentation ever made in certainly the modern history of this state by a Governor on what is before us, what the major issues are, the whole package, where he stands on them, from water to energy to finance, and I think it is fair to say that this session this next two years of the Legislature holds the promise if they deal with all of these in one form or another but reach a resolution of them, this will go down as one of the most significant sessions in the history of the state. Now, if we create a system in which we spend all of our time squabbling over this rule, that rule, whether the Speaker can do this, whether a Chairman can do this, whether this is at the right time or the wrong time, you are going to find that about 75 of the 90 days are completely wasted in that kind of thing. You are going to get frustrated and the system is going to end up accomplishing probably nothing in one of the most important years of all when we need to accomplish a lot. I guess I don't know the purpose of this particular amendment or several of the others I have seen other than as I understand it, might as well spell it out, to keep anything from occurring today so that the issue of bill limitation can be addressed when more people are here. If that is the goal of these amendments, simply to buy time, then I think we ought to do her up front. If we can't finish the stuff today, say, we can't finish it today, rather than stall and play games. Take it up tomorrow, but not waste our time creating a system where the Speaker can't function, where when you come in the morning after you have a daily agenda the Speaker finds that this has happened or these people are not here or something causes a situation which you have to make an adjustment in the agenda and the Speaker has to have two hours to debate and a three-fifths vote to decide whether you are going to have A in front of B or whether we are going to postpone a resolution because Senator Johnson or whoever couldn't get in because of the snow from Omaha. You are going to get yourself locked in, if you are not careful, to an unworkable system,