

January 6, 1982

Appropriations Committee bills should have to be passed. That really puts us down to the end of the session. I think the reason I have inserted this limit on when the appropriations bills have to be passed so that if they are not passed by the seventy-sixth day of the ninety day session or the forty-sixth day of the sixty day session, then we can go ahead and work on the A bills. I think it is a reasonable approach and I would urge the adoption.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. Chairman, I can appreciate the point that Senator Lamb is making. I could not support the amendment because it seems to me that it could be easily circumvented by just slowing down the appropriation bills and then the A bills are released. I would be perfectly comfortable with living with the rule change that designated the time that the appropriate general appropriation bills had to be considered in order to provide ample time as I have been frustrated too when we have strived very hard in the committee to get bills out early and then they sat for two, three, four weeks out here without being enacted which was of no fault of the committee, no fault of the Legislature, it was part of the process. But I would be perfectly willing to require by rules that the general appropriation bills are passed and considered all by the Legislature well ahead of the final days to allow that more adequate time that Senator Lamb would like to see for discussion of A bills. I don't know how many days he would like but if it was ten legislative days, that is quite a hunk out of ninety. That would not bother me. I would anticipate this year, we haven't talked in committee yet obviously, but the tentative plans are such that the bills should be out here the week of March 6 and should that happen that...I haven't looked how many legislative days would be left but it's like four weeks at least of calendar days. So that could provide the leeway if the bills are expeditiously handled once they are reported to the floor.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I know the hour is late and all that but right now you're sitting on what the day is all about and what the rest of the session is all about. This is it, this rule, proposed amendment of Senator Lamb's and I believe it is so critically important you adopt some version of his amendment. I would like his amendment but I have a question of Senator Warner who also obviously recognizes the problem and I guess