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LR 215

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Lamb, as I read the rule it says the report has to be made within the 20th and 30th day which has been done.

SENATOR LAMB: As I read it now, it says between 15th and 20th days after...on even numbered years. This would be an even numbered year, would it not?

SENATOR CLARK: It is an even number.

SENATOR LAMB: So it's 15 to 20 legislative days. Now does that mean that we do not have any deadline on when the Legislature acts on the report? Is that correct?

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Wesely, did you want to clarify that?

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Lamb, if you will look at Section 4 of the rules, it says that the Legislature shall consider such resolution no less than three legislative days after the Appropriations Committee report is distributed to the members of the Legislature and the resolution is printed in the Legislative Journal. I consider it not necessarily passed. We want to bring it up on the floor if there is a...as today evidently there is a decision that perhaps we don't want to act on it today but at least it has to be considered within that time frame. And then I think it is up to the Legislature as to when we take final action. There is no actual language that I can see at this point in the rule that says we have to adopt it by a certain date. The report has to be in by a certain time and we have to consider it within a certain time but then it is up to the Legislature to act upon it in whatever fashion we find most appropriate.

SENATOR LAMB: Well, Mr. Chairman, if I could continue. It seems to me that if the Legislature shall continue such resolution no less than 3 legislative days after the Appropriations report is distributed, that really means act on it. I think that was the purpose of this amendment to the rule in the first place, was to be sure that this sort of thing...this was taken care of early in the session so everyone knew where they stood, and whether or not we lay this over, I would like to just discuss laying it over since we have discussed the rule. I don't see the purpose in it. We are really talking about \$15 million. Do you want to talk about \$15 million now or do you want to talk about \$15 million later? That is the issue. In considering the general economy of this state,