

January 14, 1991

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...what you think is right. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: We will now proceed to vote on the amendment to the amendment by Senator Bernard-Stevens. And my understanding is this motion will take 25 votes, since we're operating under temporary rules. Any motion takes 25 votes to pass. So, all those in favor of the amendment vote aye, all opposed vote no. Have you all voted who wish to vote? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 1 aye, 14 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment to the committee amendments.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment to the amendment fails. Before we proceed back to the amendment, I'd like to make an introduction. There is a visitor here for Senator Haberman, his name is Mark McGreer, from Big Springs, Nebraska. He's under the north balcony. Would you welcome him to the Legislature. Now we will go back to the original amendment. We have Senator Moore to speak.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker and members, you know as you look at this amendment, a few people, a number of people have asked me, obviously, what does this do to the process? And I must say that this particular language is the result of some communications between myself and the Rules Committee. And I guess, quite honestly, if I...if nothing would change, that would be fine with me. But maybe it's time to make a few changes. And I don't...I particularly see this as almost being, not almost, actually being beneficial to the whole process, because what we could do under this process is once we finally...for one, you've got to remember where we come from. The fact is that there has been a rule on the books since the early eighties that any committee that wants to can have an agency hearing at any time they want to. I think that...at certain times that can be a little...it never has been used, but certainly the potential is there. The first thing this amendment does is quite simply says that those types of budget hearings, if a Standing Committee chairman...chairperson wants to, can hold those agency budget hearings after we've already done so on the Appropriations Committee. The reason I think that is wise is because then you have a proper window of opportunity for a Standing Committee, if they wish, to bring an