

January 11, 1995

statement and would just urge you to adopt the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. The question before the body is the adoption of the amendment to amendment seven to the permanent rules. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the adoption of the amendment to amendment number seven.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Withem amendment is adopted. Senator Will, do you wish to close on amendment seven?

SENATOR WILL: Very briefly, Madam President, members of the body. I just want to clarify what we have now in the amended proposed rule change number seven is the Rules Committee, comprised of five voting members, plus the Speaker as a nonvoting member, that's what we're voting on now. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Will. The question before the body is the adoption of amendment seven to the permanent rules. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 37 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the adoption of the amendment number seven as offered by the Rules Committee.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Amendment seven is adopted. Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. Proposed rule change number eight also deals with the Rules Committee. And it would repeal a current rule that we have, Rule...which is in Rule 3, Section 4(f). Currently the rules provide that all proposed rules changes are to be set for public hearing within 5 legislative days after referral to the Rules Committee, and that the hearing is to take place within 15 days after the referral, and that the committee take final action on the proposal within 10 days after the hearing. The fact is this is a rule that I, frankly, have ignored as Rule Committee Chair because typically rules changes come into the Rules Committee late in the legislative session, and a time that we all know we are very busy with legislation, and many votes, long time spent on Final Reading, and it's simply not something that is feasible for the Rules Committee to do. What rule change number eight would do is repeal that rule and replace it with a rule that