

January 11, 1995

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Chambers, do you have any further discussion of your amendment? Senator Will, any further discussion of the Chambers' amendment?

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Madam President. Just briefly, I would support Senator Chambers' amendment completely. I think it clarifies exactly what is meant by this, and that is that rule changes be submitted at least seven days prior to the commencement of the regular session, not exactly seven days. So I would thank Senator Chambers for bringing that. And I would also just briefly mention that Senator Beutler has explained very well what my understanding of this rule change is and what I think the Rules Committee intended. So I would ask for your support for the Chambers amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Pirsch, any discussion of the Chambers amendment? The question before...Senator Chambers, you wish to close on your amendment? No closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Chambers amendment to amendment eight. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 35 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Chambers' amendment to the amendment as offered by the Rules Committee.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chambers amendment is adopted. We return to a discussion of amendment eight. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. Senator Will, I guess maybe a comment first here, and then a question that I'd like to ask concerning rule change number eight. Members of the body, I think we need to be awfully...a lot of people wonder why we spend so much time and we get a little bit picky on the rules. These are the rules that we're all going to play by as the session goes along. How we word things are very, very important because we'll take...many times we'll take a very literal interpretation of what the rule actually says. It's not dissimilar to a court case, where you may have a loose interpretation of what the law is, or very strict interpretation of the law. We need to be very careful that when we look at a strict interpretation of the rules that we don't preclude some of the rights and some of the rights given to senators at various times to allow for a very good, free and open discussion and debate. Senator