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body, for those of you who were here last year will remember a great deal of debate by and a motion by Senator Hall to only consider the motion to return to Select and not to deal with germaneness, and many of us argued that that's getting the cart before the horse in making a decision as to whether or not you would vote to return the bill to Select for consideration of a specific amendment. Senator Beutler and I introduced this proposed rule change together following that discussion, feeling that in the best interest of time and in the best interest of content for specific amendments in terms of returning a bill to Select that this makes good sense as we consider whether or not to cast that vote in a return to Select File. Senator Beutler, would you like to add anything? If not, I would appreciate a vote in favor of this addition to the rules. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator McKenzie. The Chair recognizes Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Madam President and members of the body, I think Senator Hall's recollection of events surrounding this were accurate with one exception. As I recall, I was in the Chair when the ruling was made and I saw no way of ruling under our current rules other than the question of germaneness could not have been before us at that particular time because what was before us was a question to return and there was no issue of germaneness present over whether a bill should be returned or not returned. However, the intent of the rule change is a good one in that it would save a lot of time. If we could simply rule amendments either in order or out of order earlier on in the process, it would save a lot of time, so even though this does tend to reverse a ruling that I made when I was in the Chair, the ruling I made was one that I had to make based on how the rules were written...are currently written and I think this particular rules change makes a lot of sense and I would urge the body to adopt it.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. The Chair recognizes Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President, and members, Senator Withem, I apologize. I know that you were in the Chair, your recollection is accurate, but I believe that, based on precedent, the current presiding officer also ruled in that same manner subsequent to your original ruling on that, and a correct one that it was in both cases. But I do stand and support the