

January 17, 1995

Have a good time at your hearings next Monday, Senator Schellpeper. The call is raised. Mr. Clerk, where were we?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, we're now back to the proposed rule change. We're dealing with the item that's labeled version number two, offered by Senators Bromm and Beutler.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay, we are back now to discussing the original motion, the motion...Rule 15. The speaking order, as we recessed, consisted of Senators Crosby, Hall, Beutler, Bromm and Schimek, and they will be recognized in that order. Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. From a general point of view on this particular rule change, and from a philosophical point of view I'm against it. Haven't quite made up my mind, I want to listen to all of the debate. I don't want people to think I have a closed mind, so I won't stand up here and say right now I'm going to vote against it, in case you did something to it that I felt I could live with. But I want to reiterate a little history, and Senator Withem touched on this, this morning, when he mentioned the natural resources...or he mentioned the city auditorium in an ethanol bill last year. The senators who were here then and who were working on that particular compromise allowed Senator Chambers to speak all afternoon. Now you notice I didn't say you used Senator Chambers, you allowed him to speak all afternoon on nothing, when it came right down to it. We talked about ditches along the highway, Senator Chambers. I don't know what that had to do with anything, except that we were using up time. The other thing, the Natural Resources Committee was doing some things, or Senator Beutler had some bills in that some of the rural senators didn't like and they used at least one afternoon, I know, talking about all kinds of things that had nothing to do with the subject. What concerns me is that this gives too much power to the Speaker. And I would say that even if Senator George Coordsen were Speaker. I wouldn't want him to have that much power. I wouldn't want anyone on this floor, whoever the Speaker is, he or she, I feel, you'll notice, Senator Schimek, I said he or she. The Speaker already has the ability, the privilege, whatever of getting people together outside the Chamber and discussing what we're up against when we come up on a bill that people are trying to slow down for various reasons. And both sides do it on a bill, it isn't just one person that does that; I've done it, you've done it, the new senators who