

January 17, 1995

time but I sure as heck wouldn't mind having an operative date that said January 1 of 1997 if we're going to adopt this kind of a proposal, so you know going in this is how it's going to operate, not the two-year...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...test pilot operation that Senator Beutler proposes with regard to this amendment. I just don't think it will work, I don't think it's necessary. I think the rules that we have at present currently allow us to do many of these same things and I think that we would be better off with leaving them as they exist for this purpose instead of creating a monster that we're not sure until we actually work with it, how it's going to function. And I firmly believe that in the case of this proposal as it is amended, as it continues to be amended, that it will come up and very likely cost us more time instead of saving us time which is really the purpose behind it, I believe. With that, again, I'd urge you to reject it. I have yet to see how it is going to function other than with various hypotheticals that may or may not (inaudible)...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time, Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: ...and I would urge that those proponents have not yet made the case for the change.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I won't repeat some of the things that Senator Hall said, obviously. He made some very, very good points. I, too, arise in opposition at this point to the amendment that now is before us or to the rule change that is before us. But I would like to add a couple of other comments in regards to the minority because we have a tendency sometimes to focus on Senator Chambers or some other entity and we focus just on that narrow viewpoint. The fact of the matter is in a democratic society, if we go back and think about it just a bit, we need to remember that our forefathers set up in our constitution and in our rules and the House and Senate in the United States government, they set up the rules so that the majority could not dominate. In fact, they went over and beyond probably what they needed to do to make sure that the minority had powers. In fact, they had power set aside that it could actually stop the majority and