

January 18, 1995

that case, Mr. President, I have a series of amendments offered by individual members. Senator Witek would move to amend with the proposal found on page 224 of the Journal.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Just one second, Mr. Clerk, for clarification for the body, there was one section of the Rules Committee report that we did not deal with. Senator Bromm, it's your desire to have...what is that, Section 8 withdrawn. Is that the case?

SENATOR BROMM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, when Senator Will was still here I think we had discussed and, at least some of the members of the Rules Committee had, we would like to work on that and pass over that and not take any further action. There may have been an amendment pending to that from Senator Maurstad but he said he would like to withdraw that amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The Chair would recognize Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, if you will remember when Senator Will started with some of the rule changes here, he mentioned that he had put them in order of not...from least controversial to the most controversial, so I took that as an indication that he thought that this was a controversial amendment to the rules. I don't think so. I'm not trying to be controversial. I'm not trying to give anybody a hard time with this amendment. I'm simply doing what I think is right. And the first year that I came here when we voted by secret ballot, first of all, I was astonished that we wrote it on a piece of paper, and, secondly, I was surprised that we did it at all. I didn't understand why it had to be by a secret ballot. It's not the way I've done things in my life. Some of the...when I asked some of the members of the body why we voted for our leadership on a secret ballot, some of the members told me that the reasons for doing so was that they didn't want to hurt the feelings of friends by voting for someone else and having the opportunity, I guess, to tell the person that they didn't want to hurt their feelings that they were voting for them and then having that person wonder forever who it was that had voted for them and who it was that hadn't voted for them. When I talk about friends, I guess the first thing that comes to my mind is honesty. I would much rather have a friend come to me, in all honesty, and tell me they weren't voting for me and...than to lie to my face. I wouldn't consider that something a friend would do. And that person, as a friend, would know that there is two things that