

January 8, 1996

Withem, were you listening to Senator Chambers talking about when, you know, you gut the bill, and Ernie's got this bill that he wants up on the floor, see. And then, you know, we kill the amendment that, we'll say it was the Education Committee, then he can talk about his bill. I mean that would be...he would have that freedom to amend his original bill back in, after it was on the floor.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yeah, that practice exists either under this current rule, or under this change. I mean our practice of the bill itself has to come to the floor, and yeah, if whoever had the original underlying bill didn't want their bill gutted, then they'd have it on the floor and I suppose could fight the committee amendment.

SENATOR ROBINSON: We'd have to watch out to make sure it wasn't Senator Chambers' bill so his chicanery wouldn't be with us on the floor.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers and others I would say would have to watch out for.

SENATOR ROBINSON: And others, okay, I know. What if there wasn't a...say there wasn't a vehicle, and say we got to the end of session and, what would you do? Just suspend the rules then or what?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Well, you have to have a bill.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Yea., yeah.

SPEAKER WITHEM: I mean in order to pass legislation you have to have a bill, so...

SENATOR ROBINSON: But say we had to have something done and there wasn't a bill in committee. How would you do that?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Well, what we've typically done is we've looked for bills that are on General File or Select File that are no longer needed and...

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay.