

January 8, 1996

I think my time is up for this time.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, your light is next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Madam President. And, Senator Will, continuing the discussion we were having, the five days that must elapse between introduction and passage may not necessarily protect the public because a bill may be nothing like what it was when it was first introduced by the time it reaches a vote for final passage, isn't that correct?

SENATOR WILL: That's correct, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So there is not really that protection in terms of what is actually on Final Reading that the Legislature will vote on. What I mean by that, five days will not be there for the public to be apprised of what is actually in the bill to be voted on at Final Reading.

SENATOR WILL: Not if, under your scenario, not if the bill underwent substantial changes. And I assume that's...you're continuing along that line.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, and we have stripped bills after they were introduced and they would be passed in fewer than five days from the stripping. Are you aware of bills having been stripped on Select File, or in some cases returned from Final Reading to Select File to be altered drastically?

SENATOR WILL: I've done it, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, and that's just to establish that this change could occur in fewer than five days elapsed from the time of that change to the time we vote on it. But the point that I'm getting to, and I'll ask...thank you, Senator Will, Senator Withem this question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Withem.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Withem, again I'm asking the question because I don't know it to be a fact. The two-day provision currently in the rules, does that have anything to do with providing a possibility of notification to the public of the