

January 9, 1996

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Will, what we're talking about, with the Wickersham proposal, is the ease or difficulty by which a bill can be amended. Would you agree with that?

SENATOR WILL: I would agree.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, the inconsistency would be introduced, by my amendment, by saying that it's not going to be as difficult if a bill is on Final Reading as it is on General or Select,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...isn't that right?

SENATOR WILL: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that's the only place where an inconsistency can be introduced with reference to this particular amendment. I won't ask you anymore questions because there's really not enough time and I don't want to get you in the middle of an answer then we lose it. But, members of the Legislature, the reason I'm asking Senator Will these questions to show that this talk of consistency or inconsistency really is irrelevant and beside the point. The real issue that we should look at is whether a contingency could arise where it is necessary, in the minds of a majority of the legislators, to add something to a bill which reposes on Final Reading and that cannot be accomplished because of the Wickersham proposal. If you want that contingency where you cannot get the amendment, even though a majority wants it, then you would, as Senator Will said, stick with the Wickersham proposal and defeat my offered amendment to it.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Your light is next, you may continue.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Will, now do you think that a poss.... Well, let me...I'm going to rephrase what I was going to ask as a question. Is it beyond the realm of reasonableness, and by that...by my use of the term "reasonableness" I mean you don't have to make a long reach for what I'm going to ask you to happen. Is it within the real of reasonableness to arrive at a point, toward the end of the session, where a majority, but fewer than 30 members, is convinced that some proposition needs