

January 9, 1996

fruitful, if it isn't good, if it isn't helpful, we certainly can take another look at it at the beginning of next session and remove the rule or amend it but it is worth a try. Very much worth a try. I'm not worried about empowering the Speaker to this extent. There are some checks and balances that are existing, that are not being changed. In fact, another check and balance is being inserted with Subsection A, with the requirement that the Executive Board approve the selection of the ten bills or resolutions or five bills if this amendment is adopted. I feel good about that, the Executive Board being representative of the body, being representative of the geographical areas of the state. I think that is an excellent check and balance. We certainly always have the ability to overrule the Speaker if the majority of the body chose to do that. So we have another check and balance in that fashion. I believe that the proposal, as written, or as amended by the Maurstad amendment will afford this body quality time to debate those issues...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...that determine to be of the greatest importance to the State of Nebraska. I don't think when our one house system was created that we probably envisioned the complexity and the volume of measures that we would face in a given session. I'm not sure that it was envisioned that we would have the personnel in this body that have the abilities that they do to focus the legislature for great periods of time on issues that may not rank amongst the top five or ten that we need to be dealing with. I think the direction this rule takes is one that we need to try. If we find that it isn't helpful we can always abandon it or amend it, so I would encourage the body to seriously consider adopting this amendment as well as the entire rule proposal.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you Senator Bromm. Senator Beutler on the Maurstad amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Coordsen and members of the Legislature briefly on the Maurstad amendment, I have no objection to that, it is how far we want to go when we experiment with this the first time is a valid question of course, and if we want to go a little slower, make it a little more limited in scope, that is just fine. What I want to talk