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legislature. And what concerns me is that we would control the way that bills are handled so that a bill would be prevented from being heard at all, and we're not changing that in any way. I agree with Senator Beutler that this is an organizing change. I support the Maurstad amendment because I believe the number becomes a presumption of the number that we will deal with in this manner. And because our time is so limited, the amount of time that we have to take up bills becomes a controlling factor. I really do think that we should have a limited number and so I strongly support the Maurstad amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Please keep your conversation down so we may hear the speaker.

SENATOR BROWN: I've heard many members of this body say that we should take time to discuss a particular issue, maybe property taxes or crime. And there is the assumption that the Speaker should do something about it, and the Speaker does have the power to do something about it, but I think we need to have a commonly understood process by which the Speaker can do something about it. So I support both the rule change and the Maurstad amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Chambers on the Maurstad amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, unlike those who have given glowing support for this proposed rule change and talk about how it's only organizational, this is one of the worst usurpations of authority and power in the Legislature that has been attempted since I've been here. To allow the Speaker, whoever that person is, to determine which amendments will be considered, the order in which they will be considered, is to my way of thinking a blueprint for disaster. I see worse and worse things happening in this Legislature and I'm going to tell you all right now I'm serving notice. I'm going to obstruct as much as I can. If I were a member of a homogeneous white group as the rest of you all are, maybe it wouldn't make me any difference. My interest and concerns will never be considered major here. I'm looking at what I consider the racist attitude in gutting the Equal Opportunity Commission that this Legislature has already engaged in. So since there's an utter and total disrespect and disregard for the constituency that I represent, a total and