

January 11, 1996

ordered. Senator Maurstad, to open on his amendment.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. Once again I'm addressing the first part of the new rule change, Section 17. There is, I believe, a typographical error on the...that was in the Journal. And what I had posted in the Journal is still a part of this amendment. What I have done is deleted a sentence in addition to the language that I've added. So I'll try to go through that for you as clearly as possible. We're talking about Section 17, subsection (a). What I am proposing that would be done would be the second sentence be deleted. That sentence is, "The designation of a bill or resolution as a major proposal shall be made by the Speaker no later than the 20th legislative day." I am proposing to strike that sentence. My second change in the amendment would be to add language into the next sentence. The next sentence would read, "Determinations made by the Speaker pursuant to this subsection shall be limited to bills or resolutions previously designated as a senator priority." That's the language that I'm adding. The language that I'm adding is, "limited to bills or resolutions previously designated as a senator priority." Now, obviously, what we have here and the reason why I'm taking out the sentence before is if we're going to, in fact, restrict the pool of bills and resolutions available to the Speaker, the number of days involved in that will have to correspond with at what point in time the speaker has...or that a senator has to designate a bill a priority, or a resolution. Since we're already indicating that the Speaker shall be authorized to designate, there's no reason to indicate that again, as it does in the second sentence. So the policy discussion that we need to address with this amendment, and by the way, this is the last amendment that I will be...that I intend to offer relative to this proposed rule change. This discussion should focus on whether or not we want to further limit the Speaker's ability to select certain bills or resolutions. And what this amendment would do would be to restrict that to bills or resolutions that had been designated a senator priority bill. With that, I think I will conclude my comments. I apologize if this is not extremely clear, but I think that through a short question and answer we can probably clarify it for those that may be interested and not understand what I'm trying to accomplish. So, thank you, Madam Speaker...President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. Senator