

January 11, 1996

you are going to require a major proposal to...previously having been designated as a senator priority bill, it just makes sense to allow the Speaker more latitude in designating it a major proposal. So, with that, I would urge your support for the Maurstad amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Will. Is there any further discussion on the Maurstad amendment? Seeing none, Senator Maurstad, to close.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. The intent and the purpose of this amendment is to further take a slightly more cautious approach than what was first presented to us by the Rules Committee. As I indicated, I'm inclined to be supportive, and now I'm certainly supportive of it if this is...if this is adopted with the other two minor changes that were made previously, in that as we break this new ground, we do so cautiously, to be able to determine whether or not it does in fact allow for better administration of the work that we have before us. It very well could be a very successful change and one that we might want to expand upon in the future. If so, this would be...if this amendment is adopted this would be an area where we might want to have a policy discussion in the future. But for right now what I would like for us to do is to be able to have the Speaker choose from those bills that the members have designated as their priority bill, which should be representative of the major issues that face the state during any particular legislative session. So, to recap again, in Section A...or subsection (a) of Section 17, it would delete the second sentence because it would not be needed. And then it adds, after "shall be", the words "limited to bills or resolutions previously designated as a senator priority." and "approved by the Executive Board" would continue after that. So, I would ask the support of the members for this...for this amendment. I will then be able to support the rule change and would encourage the members to do likewise. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. The question before the body is the adoption of the Maurstad amendment to the fifth section of the permanent rules. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.