

January 11, 1996

magnitude of the proposal and not upon their individual opinions as to whether they are for the proposal or not. In reality, though, we all know when we have motions every day that ought to be decided on a procedural basis, on a germaneness, things of that type, and the votes come down along the lines of how people feel about the proposal itself. Because of that I think that we ought to keep it at a simple majority of the Executive Board as opposed to a super majority. With that, I would urge you to oppose the Chambers amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bromm, on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I've been trying to listen to Senator Chambers' arguments on this while I've been engaging in some other conversations with senators about this whole rule proposal. So I just want to make a brief point, and that is this, that Senator Chambers' point that the proposals that are designated as major should have two-thirds approval by the Executive Board is not a problem with me. I don't have a problem with that. If it's a major proposal, something that the body overwhelmingly thinks should be debated in a deliberate way, and with plenty of time, I think that that two-thirds will exist. And if it doesn't, then maybe it's a close call as to whether it should be designated or not. And I.... So, I just rise very briefly without repeating a good deal of what Senator Chambers has said and with all due respect to my colleague, Chairman of the Rules Committee, Senator Will, and I rise in support of this amendment and urge the body to go ahead and adopt it. I think it provides just a little bit more of a check and balance and safeguard that maybe some of the members, including Senator Chambers, would feel more comfortable with, and for that reason I support it. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senator Bromm, I appreciate your comments and I appreciate the fact that when somebody is in opposition of a proposal, like Senator Chambers is, that you don't have the knee-jerk reaction to anything he proposes. Obviously, you're going to, to anything he proposes, you will not automatically just oppose, such as what Senator Will is doing. But...and I appreciate that, because what Senator Will really was...is saying and, as Chair of the Rules Committee I would think he would have a different