

January 17, 1996

forward. What I would like to do today is to get the Legislature on to its business. I would like to get off of the rules, I would like to move forward on...adopt the rules for the most part, and I would like to get to discussions of issues that Nebraskans have voted us down here to do. And the reason I say that is some senators may come up and say, well wait a minute, if we...before I go on further, this motion that I have is a reconsideration of the vote that we took, that I believe 23 senators voted to strike Section (c), 23 or so voted not to, and it was not adopted by a narrow margin. Some senators came up and said they would like to rethink that issue, so I filed the reconsideration motion. So this motion is simply to...a motion to reconsider the vote taken on striking of Section (c), and again, to remind my colleagues, if this vote would have 25 votes, then I would...then we technically would vote again on removal of Section (c). My sense of the Legislature, and many times I'm right and equally times I'm wrong, but my sense of the Legislature is the following--Senator Beutler has withdrawn his motion to suspend the rules. It is now at the bottom of the list. Senator Chambers has some amendments now that would be above that, I believe; maybe not, it might be at the bottom. But either way, if we would get to a rule suspension, suspend the rules, cease debate, get to an immediate vote, that in fact would happen on rule number 6. Then what happens is the following--then the motion before the Legislature will be. shall the Legislature adopt all of the rules to be our permanent rules for the Legislature? And at that particular point in time, every rule in the rule book is amendable, every one. Anybody could put a rule or a motion up there to strike Rule 7, Section 3, and it may have 20...you know, 20 different parts to it and we could divide that out. And my sense is that people feel strong enough on the issue of giving the Speaker more power than probably the Speaker's position needs to have, that they would be willing to do that. I don't think the Legislature is willing to waste...not waste, to devote that much time on this issue. I think we'd rather get to should the Legislature change the number of days it meets, should we get to administrative drivers license revocations, should we get to property tax bills and so on. The main hanging point is Section (c). I would be willing to grant Rule 6, that if we strike Section (c), that we have still done a positive thing for the Legislature, if one looks at it in this particular light. The Speaker would be able to pick five bills beyond the 25 bills he can pick as Speaker priorities, and beyond the 49...beyond the one bill the Speaker