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would be the Speaker's power to determine the order of amendments and motions to be taken up. Actually, this is probably the crux of this proposal. I think that Senator Bernard-Stevens characterized the adoption of this as appalling. Frankly, I think the way that we do things now can be appalling because, as you well know, with a few exceptions regarding motions that have priorities and amendments that have priorities because they are brought by the introducer, the order of amendments is simply a matter of who can get the amendment to the Clerk's desk first. And that is, frankly, in and of itself appalling to me, from time to time, because often there are amendments that are put up that are deliberately filed to prevent the body from dealing with the issue at hand. And we have a dilatory rule that is intended to deal with that situation. It has not been invoked, I think probably because it has had a positive impact of making sure that amendments that are filed are substantive. But at the same time, we do have a simple race to the Clerk's desk to determine the order of amendments that are taken up. And frankly I, for one, am not in opposition to allowing a little more structure to that process where amendments can be taken up, hopefully, in a more rational fashion, grouping amendments together that are similar in purpose or deal with a similar section of a bill, things of that type that I think would facilitate the operation of the legislative body. I agree with Senator Bernard-Stevens that internal discipline ought to be enough. Frankly, in some cases that just isn't the case; it's not enough. And again the point needs to be emphasized that nothing in this rule change would prevent amendments to amendments. The Speaker would be authorized to determine the order that amendments are taken up in but, at the same time, amendments to those amendments would be in order under this proposal. So I would urge you to reject the reconsideration motion and proceed to, hopefully today, a vote on proposed rule change number six. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, obviously I'm in opposition to this particular amendment for the reason that it is perhaps the most important part of it left. And if it goes, all the time we've spent on this will have been for naught and we will have lost all of our effort. Let me remind you again what the starting point is for me on this, at least, and that is in all other legislative bodies in this