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substance of the amendment and be done with it. So I just want you to know for all the fortitude you've shown and forbearance you've shown and (inaudible)...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...you've shown, there is a time in the not too distant future when this debate on rules is going to come to an end and we'll be to the matter. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Matzke, followed by Senator Dierks, Chambers, Bromm, Wickersham, Lynch, Will, Crosby, and Avery. Senator Matzke.

SENATOR MATZKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I serve on the Rules Committee and I've been quiet in this debate, and I've listened carefully to the arguments on both sides, and I really don't think it's difficult to make a decision in the issue before us. I think Senator Bernard-Stevens' motion to reconsider must be rejected and subsection (c) deserves to be passed. In spite of everything that's been said, somebody dominates and dictates the order of our business on this floor. The fundamental question, and it's a very simple question, is, who's going to determine that? Is it going to be our elected leader, or is it going to be someone who can just write yellow slips of paper faster than somebody else? We've seen, at least in the last session of this body, a helter-skelter approach to considering serious, substantive matters. We have been denied, as members, the right to debate and consider meritorious issues that deal with serious legislation because somebody can write yellow slips of paper faster than somebody else. I think the time has come for us to avoid happenstance, put some order into our deliberations and grant to the person who is our elected Speaker, with whom I do not always agree, of course, like most of us, but someone has to be the leader and somebody has to direct our activities. I think the first step is to reject Senator Bernard-Stevens' motion to reconsider. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I'd like to direct a question to Senator Will. Senator Will is not here, is he.