

January 17, 1996

has the ability to put that up on the list. This simply sets a deadline for when he picks the five. But we would still have to have, and still would have, the special order rule for after that 20th day if, in fact, there was something that needed to be put above the agenda, the Speaker would have the authority and would really need to have the authority to continue to do that. So it could not replace the special rule because they're totally different circumstances

SENATOR AVERY: Okay. Thank you for that comment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR AVERY: One, I guess one last thought that I had is I see some of the problem here, and in my mind and my thinking is that potentially the Speaker would need...and when you have a special piece of legislation usually in terms of what we have dealt with before is like a crime bill. It's divided into different sections. If we get bogged down I would see potentially a rule that the Speaker could set aside a section that is bogged down, go to another one in some time fashion, so in the eight hours of debate before cloture, we have talked about most of the sections, or a majority of the sections, or all of them, of a piece of legislation, it has come up to the body. I guess that would be something that I'd ask the Rules Committee to try to modify or consider. And I'm not sure that this...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR AVERY: ...would do it. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Would like to recognize a guest of Senator Hartnett. We have fourth grade class from...hold on, excuse me a second. We have a fourth grader from St. Mary's Elementary School in Bellevue, Meghan Smith, and her mother, Margy, guests of Senator Hartnett. Could you please stand and be recognized. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I want to ask Senator Will some questions so we can see how effective this rule is going to be, if you adopt it, in streamlining debate and hurrying things along. Senator Will, once the Speaker schedules or establishes an order of amendments