

January 17, 1996

a person would rule...read the rules, suggested ways...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...around what was occurring. But I'm not going to be dictated to by anybody, whether it's an individual or a collection of individuals. There's no way to intimidate me. There is no way to coerce me. And although Senator Bernard-Stevens was pressured into shaving off his mustache...I knew something was wrong with him but I couldn't put my finger on it, no pressure can be brought to bear on me with reference to any...see, he's getting old and he's getting tired so he thinks I am. I won't get tired, I will get older, but I'm going to continue to push for those things in our process that I think ought to be there, and this provision six is one that ought not to be.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Beutler. Senator Beutler passes. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I will be supporting the motion to suspend the rules, I think, and I'm going to have to think about that just a little bit careful. I would like to get it to a vote as well, but I...one of the things I...one of the things that I am, I would like to push the Legislature, and again to point out, that Section (c), or Rule 6 has yet to receive 25 votes. This body is very divided on this issue. And I want members to think about something, even if you voted in favor of Rule 6, or this part of the rules change proposed by the Rules Committee. If we're going to make a major shift of authority, doesn't it make sense that a good healthy majority believe it's the way to go? Because if it's not a good majority, what will happen is the frustration of those that oppose this shifting of power will be taken out at the time that the Speaker uses it. And what can a Speaker do to justify all of the authority given to him because the mandate...well, there hasn't been a mandate yet and there won't be on this particular motion. I think what we've decided at this point is that it was a rules change that was worthy of debate, but its time has not come; hopefully it will never come, but the time has not come to make this radical of a change with so few senators really in support of it. And again I point out, even on the supportive side, they've never had 25 votes for the rule. Senator Beutler says that we have, and I wrote it down;