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SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Schimek, followed by Senators Elmer, Robinson and Chambers.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I'd like to ask Senator Wesely a question, please.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Wesely, will you explain how your amendment differs from the committee amendments?

SENATOR WESELY: The committee amendments would have the start in December count toward the 75-day limit, mine would not have that meeting time count toward the 75-day limit.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And that's the only difference?

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I wanted to clarify that. I thought I understood that, but I wanted to make sure that other members of the body did. Now that I'm here I'm not sure whether I support that or not. I do definitely agree with the idea of a pre-session in December, and for a lot of reasons, but probably the most important reason is I think it would serve the public well. I think the public would be able to get the bills printed and have time to notify their constituents, their memberships, and have some idea of when committee hearings are coming up, being more prepared for them. Right now, especially in the short session, it seems that we start committee hearings very early, and the public is just completely unaware of some of the bills that have been introduced. So I think getting some of those bills up and going in December, getting the printing started I think is not only going to help us with our organizational efforts, but will help the public, and probably the people that we employ to print bills, and to distribute bills, and to do all those kinds of things. I can tell you from experience, and I know that many others in this body have had the experience to become...suddenly become a committee chair, to hire staff, to move your office, to get a handle on what you're supposed to be doing, to schedule hearings, to do all that kind of stuff is just a mad house, especially of course in the longer session when...after reorganization. And it would be very beneficial to those committee chairs, and particularly new ones