

SENATOR LINDSAY: ...on that organizing session. The fear I have on an open-ended session is that...and, Senator Chambers, I apologize for mentioning these Christian holidays, but with the Christmas season coming, that there is a concern of it pushing on into that season if there is no limitation on that short session. So the proposal that will be coming later would be to limit that session to a three-day session, to allow for adoption of rules, introduction of bills, election of leadership. And that is the concept that will be coming later. So, with that, I support the Wesely concept, but I guess the version of it, I guess, I like will be coming a little bit later.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I'm enjoying this. It makes me think of one of Aesop's Fables. A wolf, in the middle of the winter at night, peered through the window of a cabin in which sat three shepherds around the dinner table, eating roast mutton. And the wolf said, Lord, what would they not do if I were doing what they're doing? In other words, if the wolf were eating the sheep, in the way that the shepherds were eating the sheep, how upset would the shepherds be? In this instance I wonder how my colleagues would feel if I were to offer various amendments to reduce the session from 75 days to 60 days, offer different combinations, have a 1-day organizing session, a 2-day organizing session, a 3-day session. You know what you all would be saying? Ernie, those are trifling amendments! They are dilatory amendments! They are a waste of time! But again, when you all do it it's all right, it's reasonable. I'm going to remind you all of this all the time. And I'm going to vote against all of it because it's crazy! When Senator Lindsay apologized to me for mentioning Christian holidays, I thought the first thing out of his mouth would be my birthday, and I was going to tell him, I've told him I'm not a religious man. (Laugh.) But he cleaned that up quickly enough. It's difficult for me to take all this stuff seriously that I'm hearing because no matter what you put in the rules, or what the constitution says about the number of days, you're not going to change the nature of people who sit in the Legislature, and you're not going to change what we do. We don't function in a vacuum. The lobbyists are not going to change, the Governor is not going to change, U.P. and the others who want to raid the public till are not going to change, so they'll bully you around