

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

January 13, 2003

about can be achieved through the rules. Let them introduce shell bills. If they think some agencies will have to be abolished, if they think some laws are going to have to be changed in order to deal with how agencies receive their money or function or any other thing, let them offer a bill on that subject and work with the subject-matter committee Chair and point out that this bill should be held and no hearing scheduled until you get word from us. As far as the notice, when they introduce a bill late, the notice to the public still has to be given before a hearing can be set up. At least if a bill is dropped in the hopper the public is made aware that this may be a subject that's going to be considered by the Legislature. The reason the constitution requires notice is so that the public will be aware of what its Legislature is going to be doing. So, despite what Senator Wehrbein said during his last presentation, I am not persuaded. I will not support this amendment.

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And if there is selective rejection of what the Appropriations Committee offers and the group opposed to it is sufficiently large, the bill wouldn't go anywhere anyway. So it might be good to find out at the out start whether or not a proposal contained in a bill that the Appropriations Committee wants should even be presented to take up our time. But if it comes to not touching Medicaid at all, Senator Wehrbein, I think you'd be dealing with a minority of one.

SPLAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. Speaker, members, this is my third time, is that right? I will not belabor...

SPEAKER BROMM: This is your second time, Senator Wehrbein. You used part of Senator Hudkins' opening.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay. I will not belabor the point. I can't disagree with what Ernie is saying, based on facts. I just want the body to recognize it's very, very difficult to recognize, even today, some of the changes that may or may not have to be made by May. And the longer we go through the process the