

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

January 13, 2003

the waters more with the language. But the idea that was driving me is that it should...that they should refer only to the internal workings of the Legislature, and I would be happy to look at language. And, you know, we could refer this to the Rules Committee, but the truth of the matter is, if we do that, it's not going to have...it's not going to have time to be adopted as part of the permanent rules, which means you have to come back, I believe, with 30 votes to get anything adopted. And so I know that this is an eleventh-hour attempt to make things better and that it may be awfully late to make that attempt, and maybe the fact that we brought it up here on the floor and have brought it to your attention and let you know that the committee feels strongly about it and let you know that we think the language is not very good as it exists in our rules right now, maybe that's... maybe that's enough for now. I'm not sure. I have no idea if there would be the votes on the floor to do anything different. But let me just read to you about Special Committees, which is what the Executive Committee is. Our rules under Section 5 says, about Special Committees, that they "shall include all authorized committees other than Standing and Select Committees. Unless otherwise specifically provided, Special Committees shall not have jurisdiction over legislative bills, but shall be subject to the same procedural rules as Standing Committees, insofar as they are applicable." It wasn't until later that we added this other language that really, as far as I'm concerned, muddied the water, and that again is under Section 5, under (c)(ii). That language down at the bottom of the page I think is what needs clarification. With that, Mr. Speaker, are there other lights on?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Yes, there are, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, we're discussing the Smith amendment to the Schimek amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, and to Senator Schimek, that language is broad that talks about the general...whatever it was you read with reference to the Legislature, to show the breadth of coverage that the Executive