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always...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Your time is up, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...considered by the county government. And the last one is the Administrative Procedures Act. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. You've heard the opening on the amendment offered by Senator Schimek to the committee...rules offered by Senator Hudkins and the committee. Open for discussion on that amendment offered by Senator Schimek. Senator Hudkins, followed by Senators Engel, Smith, and Schimek. Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and colleagues. Just for your information, Senator Schimek's proposal was heard by the Rules Committee. We had our public hearing on that, don't even remember what day it was, a few days back, and we rejected that proposal. It was indefinitely postponed, by a vote of 3...4 to 1. So, just for your information, we did discuss it and we did reject that idea. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Hudkins. Senator Engel, on the Schimek amendment.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. President, members of the body, I'm going to keep my comments brief this morning on this particular rule change. I think Senator Schimek is sending a very sincere message that she does not like some of the referencing decisions we've made over the past 12 years. And that's fine, and I certainly understand her feelings. But referencing is not an exact science, but the Reference Committee makes its decision in as fair and impartial a manner as possible. And when a decision is made that isn't taken well by the other folks who are involved, there is an avenue to ask for a rereference. We have had many, many of those, and Senator Schimek herself has done that, and I'd like to say successfully in many cases. But if the member still does not like this decision, they can do what Senator Schimek has done this morning, is bring it to the floor. So it's never...the door is never closed once the Reference