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

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members. Welcome back. I thought I would share a few brief thoughts, if I could, as has become my practice. I've told the Chairs, but I need to tell all of you, that the calendar as you have it, as it was presented, is final. And as I explained to those who asked me to reconsider, if I could have done anything to have eliminated the entirety of the week of the 31st, I would have. But it would have taken so many recess days, that it doesn't make sense, in my opinion, to take the Monday holiday, then come back for Tuesday, and then to adjourn. So it is as printed and distributed for you. I lost...I don't know about you, but as the week drags on and I get tired, why, sometimes I lose some of my vision. I wanted to share with you that this As a part of our trying to be morning will be an exception. kinder and gentler, and do things the way some of the rest of the people in the big, adult world of legislation do it, it will be my practice to begin...until it doesn't work and we need more time, it we be my practice in the future to begin on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. It's a little extra time. I don't know about you; my work is piling up. I suspect yours is. And we need extra time for something I'll mention last. When we're out of committee hearings, then on Friday we'll try to have a kinder and gentler world, too, as long as it works. And that brings me to...we're beginning to get, as I call it, our sea legs under and handle the floor. And I'd like to respectfully suggest how I'm going to try and facilitate that, as I told you I would If you're when we talked about it during the interim. advocating an idea and you're the proponent of an idea and it's your bill, then I expect you know your friends and you know your foes. And they're still your friends. You know the people who are opposed to your idea. I have never found anybody in the body with whom I could not communicate, even if we disagreed. And I'm going to expect that when I come to somebody who's sponsoring a bill, they can tell me who the opponents are and how they've dealt with them and how their ideas have been I'm not suggesting every idea can be compromised. considered. communication It can't be. But to have not had consideration of differing points of view before we get to the floor, I think, would not...does not serve the process well. And I'm going to try and come to the sponsors when we begin to have some difficulty, as I did a little bit last week, and say, all right, where are we, what can we do, how can I help this