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Clerk's Office and staff, to come up with what is best and bring us different scenarios of what might work. I don't want to handcuff anybody to anything in an amendment like this. We have to have some flexibility with the changes that may happen in the body itself. Protecting one turf from the other I don't think is what this is all about. This is about saying, does the Retirement Committee need a day? That I support, but restraining it any further I do not. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Senator Hudkins, followed by Senator Erdman.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to go back on a statement I made a few minutes ago concerning the Committee on Committees' report and, if I might, I'd like to explain to you a little further what they do. The Committee on Committees' report is approved by this body and it contains the names of the members on the committees. The schedule of the committees is not approved by us, but it may be part of the And if there is a change in committees, the names of the members or a membership number, that is part of the rules and would require a change to the permanent rules. going to this particular amendment at hand, I appreciate Senator Beutler's trying to make our process easier, but I will be voting against this particular amendment. If you would look at Rule 3, Section 6, which is found on page 17, it says, consultation with the Speaker, the Committee on Committees shall publish a schedule of standing committee meetings, in such manner as to avoid, as far as possible, conflicts in the assignment of members to committees." If we would approve this amendment, that would be taking away the flexibility that we currently have. When the Rules Committee debated what to do about Retirement, we all agreed, yes, Retirement needs their own We decided, after Senator Schrock's comments at the day. hearing, to reduce the Natural Resources Committee from three days to two days. Our discussion was to give Retirement Wednesday. But after receiving further information, as Senator Schrock has said, you're taking their committee from a three-day to a two-day committee, and then if they meet on...this session, for example, has three Fridays, you're taking them to almost a one-and-a-half-day committee. And the fact that the Rules