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

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the hallway by some of the senior members of the Legislature saying, I hear you're going to challenge your appointments. And I thought, wow, that's great; I didn't know I could do that: maybe I should do that. And they were thinking I was being smart-aleck and I was being serious, but in fact they had mistaken me for former Senator Quandahl who, at the time, was in the middle of a discussion and battle with Senator Brown about some appointments or lack of appointments to committees that they felt that they should have been on. We have the option of denying the Committee on Committees' final report, but, Senator Beutler is correct in our discussion, that only includes the membership. Okay? So we can say, no, we don't agree with the Committee on Committees' report on membership. Again, Senator Beutler is correct that they will set the schedule, but Senator Hudkins is also correct. It's in consultation with the Speaker. There is a way to resolve that. We could change that rule that says, in consultation with the Speaker and approval of the Exec Board, or there would be a way to resolve that. I am also concerned, though, as Senator Schimek is, that you would lock in proposal. I appreciate greatly Senator Beutler's this discussion that we have had, as well as his attempt to provide some clarity, which I think we're all grasping for in this discussion. The thing that I'll caution you on is, as you begin to come up with ideas of, well, we could move this committee to a Friday and this committee to a Monday, realize that you're still bound by the other committees. So if Senator Schimek wants to move, say, Business and Labor to a Friday and put Retirement on a Monday, the same people who serve on Natural Resources, if that's the proposed change, would have to serve on Business and Labor, because everybody else is going to be on Retirement, or Judiciary, or Appropriations, or Health and Human Services, or Government. So when you start the domino effect, you have to go down the line. And it's taken, you know, months for us, as my staff, to come up with a comprehensive approach. And then the Exec Board discussed it, the Rules Committee took days. This has been ongoing probably since the beginning of the Legislature, when they decided to go to a committee structure. So let's be careful about how far we go and what type of proposals we present, because in reality they may not be realistic. But if we do lock in dates in rule, it does eliminate or reduce our flexibility to try to address this