

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

January 10, 2006

to a group of senators and individuals on the Committee on Committees; they make the final say and that's it? An alternative to that might be this. Under the same section, Section 6, under "Meeting Times," which is the proposed rule before you on page 215 of your Journal, the current rule states that after consultation with the Speaker, the Committee on Committees shall publish a schedule of standing committee meetings. One alternative may be to add the words, after the comma on "with the Speaker," "and the approval of the Executive Board." Granted, it doesn't bring it back to the entire Legislature as the full Committee on Committees report would. What it does do, however, is ensure that when the Committee on Committees takes the rules that are going to be proposed and hopefully adopted today and tries to implement them, that there will be another check in that process to make sure that the schedule that is submitted has another set of eyes and another group of discussion before it actually becomes part of our process. And I'll offer that to you. This is...there's no lights on. This...we may go to a vote here on Proposal Number 2. But that may be an opportunity for us to remedy the situation. I think Senator Beutler has brought up a valuable point, and it's something that as the...as a member of the Legislature that presented the proposal to the Rules Committee, was somewhat surprised that there wasn't more specificity in the proposal before us. But recognizing the different responsibilities of the Committee on Committees and the Rules Committee, I realize that this is in the purview of the Committee on Committees. If this is the way for us as the Legislature to ensure that the work of the Committee on Committees meets another set of guidelines and another set of scrutiny to make sure that it is in accordance with either our discussion here or in the information that's available to make those decisions, I think that would be something that would be appropriate to consider. So that's an idea. If you would like to visit with me about that, we can do that. But I just thought I would throw that out for the sake of the discussion. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Erdman. There are no further lights on. Senator Hudkins, the Chair recognizes you to close on your (inaudible). Senator Hudkins waives closing. The