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for passing that bill...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...before we got to vote. So my only point, thank you, Madam President, is that Senator Chambers is not the only one who uses time on this floor.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Beutler, followed by Senators Chambers, Wesely, Tyson, Bromm, and Brashear.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, Senator Chambers' amendment, which is before us now, takes some flexibility out of...out of the initial part of the rule and I hope that you would reject it. Let me say, just in passing, that these rule changes are not easy for me either. Next to Senator Chambers and Senator Warner, before he passed away, I think that I take more interest in all of the legislation in the Legislature and traditionally offer more amendments than perhaps Senator Chambers. So it will be a burden on me to go to a couple of people and ask them if they too believe in this idea, but if they do, but that's fine, I am willing to do that. I am willing to do that because I think it's good for the institution to tighten up our rules relating to filibustering. So it's not a matter of all good and all bad from my perspective. There is a balancing act that goes on here. The public perceives that our filibustering rules are too loose, and I agree with them 100 percent. I would ask you to look at the other two sheets that I've now passed out to you. Please put in front of you and follow, if you would, the one that says, effect on short sessions if lone dissenter, one dissenter, maximizes efforts under current rules. And what I was trying to show is what any one person in this body could do during a short session if they simply, they, themselves alone, chose to do so, and I point out to you the first assumption about the number of hours debate on particular days, and I think that generally speaking everyone would agree there's about 368 hours of debating time in a short session. That's how much time we have to do the business of the state because the people of the state limit us to a certain period of time. Now if those lone dissenters so chose, if on each of the first 30 bills, they