

January 18, 1979

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell, we're under Call. We have not released the Call. Everybody take their seats. The Clerk will announce the vote.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 22 nays on the adoption of the amendment, Mr. President. (See Page 277 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER MARVEL: 25 to 22?

CLERK: Yes, sir.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the amendment's adopted...the amendment to the amendment. The motion is to raise the Call. The Call is raised. Now we are ready for the amendment itself as amended. We're ready for the proposed rule change on Page 81, and it's been amended with the date December 31, 1980. Senator Newell, do you propose...do you move the adoption of the amendment as amended? Is that your motion?

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, I'd like to move the adoption of the rule as amended.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, this takes 30 votes. Are you ready?

SENATOR NEWELL: Is there some discussion on the...

SPEAKER MARVEL: I'm sorry. The Chair recognizes Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Chairman and colleagues, I thought Senator Koch's remarks were very close to center target on the Committee on Committees in its past operation. I think he stated it quite well, and he brought forward a problem, but Senator Newell's rule change is shooting at an entirely different target than the situation outlined by Senator Koch. A problem that we have in our committee system at this particular time is the lack of time for standing committees to properly bring the public in to public hearing and discuss in detail the advantages of the proposals before the standing committees, which in my opinion, and from what I hear from my constituents, we are not doing a satisfactory job in that area at this time. Why oh why would this Legislature even consider putting more of a load on the committee system than is already existing on it. Hearing those appointment confirmations takes a long time. There are hundreds of them, and we're going to divide them up among the standing committees, and have the people wait longer and have the hearings shorter, whereby you come a hundred and fifty miles to talk about water, the most important thing in your life at that time...you come into the committee and they say you have two minutes to explain how important that is in