

March 7, 1979

After the first ten days, we then had to have a vote of three-fifths of the elected members to introduce committee bills. Well, and that's the way we've done it for years, but the language is a little ambiguous...the current language, which it really doesn't make a distinction as to whether or not the three-fifths vote should be only after the first ten days, or whether the three-fifths vote should be for every committee bill. It could be interpreted, as Senator Lamb, read it, to deal that every committee bill must have three-fifths of the full Legislature to introduce it, and so the change is simply to make it clear that that three-fifths applies only after the tenth legislative day. Now, I know there is some interest in trying to limit the number of bills or to limit committee bills, and we have pending in the Rules Committee some rules proposals. Senator Carsten has one. I believe there may be others, and there's other discussion about ways to limit committee bills. I would like to suggest that the question of how many committee bills be addressed separately from this clarification of the language, and ask simply that you adopt this rule change to make it perfectly clear that the process that we have been following is what the rules actually say should be followed. It's just to remove an ambiguity that was found, and to make the rules conform to our current procedure. So I would move adoption of that rule change.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the body. While I wasn't able to attend the Rules Committee meeting on this subject, I do support it. I do also feel that we need to work on what Senator Fowler has mentioned, but as of now, I think we'll...it will be sufficient to support this part of it and clarify this subject. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Is there any further discussion? Senator Fowler, do you wish to close? Okay, the motion is the adoption of the Rule Change found on Page 321. All those in favor of the change vote aye. Opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Okay, Clerk record.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the proposed rule change, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried and the change is adopted. Do you have a third one, Senator Fowler? What page is that on?

SENATOR FOWLER: The next rule change is Page 158 of the Journal. It's a rule change that was offered by Senator Beutler,