

May 22, 1979

than right with the introducers consent if a person, anybody, brings the bill out, then it should be indefinitely postponed if it doesn't get the required number of votes. I would simply urge this body to adopt this rule change.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp, do you wish to be recognized on this? Okay there is an amendment on the desk. The Clerk will read the amendment.

CLERK: Senator Merz moves to amend the proposed rule change (read amendment).

SPEAKER MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Merz on your amendment.

SENATOR MERZ: Mr. President, members. I can see some opposition. Do you ever think about when there is a quorum of 25 people? Three people can kill you. I mean you can have 20 votes and have three people against you and you can't do nothing. This happens sometimes in the morning and sometimes at noon when we are short of voting members. Robert Rules Order give you that. I could amend it to say two-thirds, but so help me there have been a lot of bills killed here just by playing games early in the morning without members being here. Did you ever think about this part of it? I think that it takes, it should be considered. But, anywhere but here the majority rules. We don't have a democracy in this body. The way we are doing it. So, I move that we adopt this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Marsh, do you wish to be recognized on the Merz amendment?

SENATOR MARSH: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. Senator Merz, as I look at this problem, a committee has chosen not to take action or does not have support strong enough in the committee to take action. If our time is to be taken on the floor by the discussion of a proposed piece of legislation, it ought to have as a minimum 25 votes. Enough to pass the bill on Final Reading. Otherwise, our committee system is being cut up into little pieces. With your amendment we would make ourselves laughing stock, I'm afraid our image in the community would continue on a low level rather than being elevated by needed rule changes so that we function better within the context of the rules of this body.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.