

May 22, 1979

with that framework in mind, I think I will stop and let the introducers of the bill speak to the rule change.

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Senator Clark and colleagues, the primary thrust of this particular rule change, in my opinion and the reason for my signature on this rule change, is that I think this will make us better legislators. It will make us better senators. It is going to give us time one day a week to do homework on legislation to prepare us better for floor debate, to prepare us better for committee work and whatever else we might need to do. I for one, and I'm sure a lot of you just like me, have spend a lot of mornings here at 6:00 and we're here a lot of evenings yet at midnight trying to cram something through to get ready for the next days session. You just can't possibly do the job under those kinds of severe time limitations than you could if we had this kind of a rule change. I think another thing, even more important yet than homework, and I should have led off with the most important first, is that it gives us time to visit with our constituents either in the form of correspondence, by phone or by personal contact by many of us. Many of us a three day weekend, and I'm not one of them, because I get home every weekend, but many people from Broken Bow and about that vicinity and farther west of North Platte can justify a trip back home. Maybe you don't want to do that, but you can justify a trip back home with three days that you can't with two. I think that this is good. The more input that we have to our constituents to explain what we are doing and provide leadership and the more opportunity that we have to hear from our constituents so that we can understand what they are saying can only result in more effective and better representation. I think the wear and tear on individuals of going five days in a row under the time schedule that we set also detracts from good legislation. It detracts from our personal rapport with each other. I think that we have all experienced this when we get toward the end of the session our nerves, our patience, our stamina is at a low ebb and we are at each other's throat, we have a tendency to be irritable and we are not open to communications between each other that we should. I think that if we met four days a week rather than five we would reduce this personal friction. I know myself, this session, having had the opportunity to be gone about five days, as Senator Kelly pointed out, the difference in my own attitude, the difference in my own thinking, the difference in my own physical well