

May 22, 1979

and that it is only going to apply to a sixty day session.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Are there five hands? I see five hands. Shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 4 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate is ceased. Chair recognizes Senator Murphy to close on rule change number 2.

SENATOR MURPHY: Well, ladies and gentlemen, I really should go on at some length because there has been such little discussion on this issue and we are all obviously in accord. But the fact of the matter is that those of us who proposed this proposed it with the intent that legislators would in fact be working. That we would not be being told how to vote from the rotunda or advised how to vote by our staff but would have a chance to take a look at what we are actually voting and not be turning to the man next to us and saying is this bill all right? If there is a fault in this Legislature it is the fact that we assume far to much of a work load in trying to handle bills on a fifteen minute pass through basis when we know almost nothing about them. How many Friday's have we come to this Legislature and the question is how many are excused? Nine, ten, twelve? This is good legislative procedure? The proposition that this session would be extended over weekly periods causing us to be here a longer length of time also deserves a second look. It is not a mandate that we remain here sixty days, it is a maximum. Given a day to intelligently review what we are doing to visit with one another on various issues at the same time rather than having to stand here on the floor and on a one to one basis have a bill explained to us that we should have examined on our own or visited off the floor on would shorten this session considerably. Now, I think that this body should get its courage about it and say that we are willing to test this at least on one occasion. If you want to adjourn at the end of 45 days, I would be the first to join with you in doing it. Nothing says that we must remain. But I do honestly believe that we will accomplish more work with a higher level of understanding if we take a day out of a week to look at what we are doing, and to visit with those that have the issue at hand and whom we rely on for further information and give ourselves the ability, the opportunity,