

January 6, 1982

something then, I'll just make the motion to amend that rule. And we get 30 people who will amend it. And if we want to talk about sending something to the Rules Committee then I think we have a way to get around that also and if Senator Beutler wants to know what that is I'll tell him but I'm not going to tell him now because some of these things, when you reveal in the first place, all it does is give them a better way to put boiler plate around the rules and when it is necessary to circumvent them you can't. But remember this, to say that on the first day of a thirty day journey you know as much at that point as you can hope to know at any point beyond that means you will be no wiser tomorrow than you are today. The reason you make it possible to amend rules and to suspend rules is because the statements you make today may not be suitable for all purposes and because a set of circumstances could come into play. Suppose we were short on the number of members here? A storm or a convention or whatever. And if some of those people were back there would be enough to suspend the rules with 33 or 40 votes or whatever and most of the people present did want to transact a particular piece of business but because there simply were not enough people available to get the votes you can't deal with that business if it would require a suspension of the rules. I believe what you ought to do is consider in your mind all of the situations that could arise and until we are shown that the present rule hurts the operation of the Legislature, we should not change it to make it more difficult to amend the rules. Remember, with this proposition it takes more votes to suspend a rule than it takes to amend or make a rule. When we come down here to this Legislature, we do change laws that people may have been living with for fifty years. So the mere fact that somebody has had notice that a thing is a certain way doesn't mean it must always remain that way and if we are going to follow the principle in our lawmaking that Senator Beutler wants to follow with this rule we should have very few laws that we amend because people have been living under those laws for a long time. They know what those laws mean and we should not spring surprises by offering six or seven hundred laws every two years to change and trick the people. We should let them develop apathy and lethargy and the notion that what was done twenty years ago will continue to be done twenty years hence without change or modification. I am opposed to the change.

SENATOR CLARK: The question before the House is the adoption of rule #8. Senator Wesely, do you have anything to close on it? The question before the House is the adoption of rule #8. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 25 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.