

January 8, 1986

the end of the session. This rule, again, was brought to the Rules Committee by Senator Hoagland. He felt that during Final Reading our rules indicate that every member is supposed to be in their chair, being deliberative about the issue before they do, in fact, cast their final vote. However, as the issues are addressed and there is an attempt to bring every or some issues back for amendments to Select File, there have occasionally been several occasions when we have gone on for periods of time attempting to move the bill from Final back to Select for the adoption of amendments. This bill, this issue as it is being presented to you, this rule change, indicates that we will continue to remain in our seats during Final Reading, but when the attempt is being brought before you to bring the bill back to Select for amendments, that the restrictions to remain in your seat and seated for the discussion of those amendments should be relaxed so that the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Clerk, in fact, are not put in the tenuous position of trying to keep each of us restrained in our seat while we are discussing the amendments and the attempt to bring them back. This rule change proposes that, yes, we do stay in our seats during Final Reading, but when there are attempts for amendments or motions to this effect that we do not have to stay seated in our seats. This is the proposed rule change before you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I think I had misunderstood it when I read it. This is saying that you don't have to stay in your seat during the discussion. Okay.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, let me just take you back to a couple of half a days last session when we were on General File the entire half day and we had maybe one or two votes and the rest of the time we were debating motions to bring bills back to Select File for purposes of a specific amendment and how difficult and frustrating it is when we're, basically by virtue of the rules, under call all the time with the presiding officer not even having the authority to lift the call. And sometimes we'll be under call and the debate will go on for an hour, an hour and a half, and simply because we're on Final Reading discussing an amendment, the rules require with no exceptions that we