

January 9, 1986

Governor from the Legislative Chamber. Thank you, Governor Kerrey, for coming in to deliver your State of the State Address. It is the Speaker's wish that for this morning's agenda we stand at ease until 11:00 a.m. and at eleven o'clock this morning we proceed into continued discussion of rules changes. So we will stand at ease until 11:00 a.m. Thank you.

EASE

PRESIDENT: (Microphone not activated immediately.) ...to discussion of the rules changes. Is Senator Morehead available?

CLERK: Mr. President, the next motion we have with respect to adoption of permanent rules is a motion to amend by the Rules Committee. Senator, this is the one that I have regarding clarifying the procedure regarding house under call.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Morehead.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Good morning, Mr. President and colleagues. We're back to our exciting subject of rule changes, things that affect us later.

PRESIDENT: Whee!

SENATOR MOREHEAD: The proposal before you now for your consideration is a clarification brought to the Rules Committee by Senator Withem. This is a clarification that, apparently, was exercised to its fullest several years ago and in the last special session when people were trying to maintain their citizen-legislator status by holding down jobs and a few things like this, apparently, many legislators were concerned to what extent the full limits of the interpretation of this rule as it had been applied before would again be applied during the sessions. It amends Rule 7, Section 5 to say that if a member of the Legislature has had themselves excused, then they are deemed to be excused and it will not be imperative, therefore, upon the Clerk or the Sergeant-at-Arms to seek out that person wherever they might be or for what reason. It indicates very clearly that any legislator who is excused, who has obtained an excuse, is therefore, in finality excused. I would move the adoption of this particular amendment to the