

January 13, 1986

Rupp.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I told Senator Hannibal the other day that this is possibly our chance to make our mark in history because after we both chair a committee they abolish both committees. I don't know if I want to go along with that or not. I have mixed emotions about this package, this rule change. Like a lot of bills that we have to look at, there is some good in there and some bad in there and some that I don't quite understand. I think it is good that we are discussing it, though. I sometimes feel that after watching the rules debate the last three days this body is pretty conservative when it comes to changing the rules that we operate under. I think we probably will have to take things in little bites rather than big gulps because I sense the mood of the body is not to make such a major change as this. I just want to make two observations regarding Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee for you to keep in mind, some things, those of you that don't serve on the committee, before you vote on this rules change. Number one, the thing we hear from our constituents, those of us on the committee, is there is no link between constitutional revision and recreation, which is absolutely true, of course there isn't. I think the rest of that story is there doesn't really have to be. I guess I would disagree with Senator Johnson and Senator Haberman that there is a direct link between agriculture and environment. I don't think there is. I also don't think that there is probably a better place for environmental issues than Ag Committee. I think they've probably done a pretty good job with it. I don't think there is a link between government and veterans affairs. I don't think there is a direct link between public health and welfare, so I don't think it is necessary that we have to have a linkage between different subject matters within a committee like Constitutional Revision and Recreation. The other point I want to make regarding Constitutional Revision is this, that there is a multitude of issues there and I know that you'll hear the argument, Senator Beutler makes the argument, a lot of people do and it is a good argument, that the subject matter in this committee should float according to the expertise of various committees. I'll give you a few examples of some big issues that came to that committee recently. Appointing the regents, a very critical issue, probably would have gone to Education under this format. A mandatory Bar Association's membership of Senator