

January 16, 1986

Like Senator Beutler pointed out the only real changes in this rule change are, number one, the elimination of the Constitutional and Recreation Committee, and the addition of a Transportation Committee. Now I would propose to you, that even though this is being sold on an agricultural issue, that maybe the issues interplaying here are not totally agriculture. I don't think we are damaging the Agricultural Committee in Format II. In fact I would propose that we are doing just the opposite. We are taking away, if you would adopt number II, and I emphasize the "if", the very few environmental issues that they have. You are highlighting them and giving them the expertise. You are giving them the ability to do some oversight work, with the adoption of Senator Lynch's and Senator Hartnett's amendment in our rules, they would have oversight ability on the Department of Agriculture. I would suggest that maybe they need to look at the checkoff boards and how those interrelate to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Economic Development. If we're going to hear agriculture and help agriculture in this state,...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: ...then I would suggest that possibly it is not simply by making it a two-day committee. Have you had any of the major agricultural organizations in here telling you this is a horrible rule change? I haven't. That is why I suggest that there are other forces at play here. I will speak again on this issue but, like Senator Beutler, I would ask you to overlook what may possibly be happening to you individually in your areas of expertise and look at the good that this rule change could bring about for helping us address our work loads and, one of our major responsibilities, the oversight of policy-making in this state. Look at the long haul and not just the end of your nose. Please defeat this proposal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, this is a motion to reconsider. I would like to ask the members of this body to support the motion to reconsider as we've done this many, many times as some members have reconsidered, have rethought and wish to have the opportunity to debate the issue and vote again. This is what we are debating now is the reconsideration motion. On