

January 16, 1986

present when all of this studying was going on, and if it was going to take a rule change, I can understand having the Rules Committee do the interim study, but the Committee on Committees was not and we are the ones that are supposed to decide the work load. It says so right in the rules. So you bet, Senator Vickers, it was politics. Senator Vickers said most of us are afraid to accept change. Many years ago I learned only a fool never changes his mind, and that is what we are doing this morning, we are reconsidering changing our minds. I think we ought to look at the rule that says the Committee on Committees will look at the work load.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Some of the members of the Committee on Committees were included in this, but not all of us. And the Committee on Committees should have been the one on that interim study, and had I had any idea that they were going to do all of these things, I would have insisted on it. Finally I want to say this, in December I came down here for the special meeting on the alleged study that was done, which turned out to be, as I read the background report, nothing but a criticism of the senators and how they use their staff. But we were told at that December meeting, which was supposed to run all day and was over at one o'clock, we will have another meeting before the session starts. We never had another meeting, unless there was a secret meeting, a private meeting, a closed meeting by those people who are in favor of this. But if you are going to talk about rules, Rules Committee,...

PRESIDENT: Time has expired.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...look at the rules. It says the Committee on Committees shall decide the work load, and not just one member of the Committee on Committees or two members. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I call the question.

PRESIDENT: Question has been called. There has been an even debate. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall the debate cease? All those in favor vote aye,