

January 14, 1991

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Moore. Seeing no further discussion? Senator Lynch, do you wish to close? The motion pending is adoption of Rule 8, Section 4.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes, Mr. President, members, this particular rule change was a...

SENATOR WARNER: Excuse me, Senator Lynch. Excuse me. Senator Bernard-Stevens, did you push your light again? I'm sorry, Senator Lynch. I'm just getting used to the system. Senator Bernard-Stevens' light did come on, and since then Senator Haberman's light has come on as well, so we'll defer the closing, if there is not objection. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you have one more five minutes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Warner. When you went and recognized Senator Lynch, I punched it off thinking that you didn't catch that. So, I thank the Chair for that. Senator Moore, I just wanted to, again, give you a chance to answer. But I will qualify with one particular point, what you are doing here is not the same thing that you're envisioning. What you are doing here is setting up an entirely new appropriations game for the players. And that is fine. What you are doing is saying that by supporting this particular measure, what you are doing is saying that any committee at any time that they feel the desire, without any further input, they don't have to go to you and ask for fiscal staff to explain things. They don't have to meet with the agency. They don't have to do anything, but simply pass an amendment. And if you think that the committees are going to ask and get a lot of information on appropriations, when they know "dang" well what they want to do on a particular item, I think you're deceiving yourselves. How many times has Appropriations told the body that we'll stay in session in a committee and anybody that wants to come in have any questions can come in and ask, Senator Moore? And how often have people then come to the committee asking for that information?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Moore, do you yield?

SENATOR MOORE: That's part of the problem, Senator Bernard-Stevens, they have not. Individual senators have not, and this particular process would give us the opportunity to better explain what goes on in a committee process as opposed to