

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
RULES COMMITTEE
50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION

January 5, 1987

The third meeting of the House Rules Committee was called to order by Chairman Tom Hannah on Monday, January 5, 1987 at the hour of 3:15 p.m. in Room 437 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

Chairman Hannah said that House Resolution 1 was the bill he had drafted following the committee's adoption of proposed rule changes. He said that the preference of the Republican caucus was to allow wives and children on the floor during sessions. Rep. Vincent said this matter had not been discussed during the Democrat caucus. Rep. Brown speculated that his party would be in favor by a two-thirds margin of returning all of the original language back.

Rep. Addy moved to amend page 2, line 16 following "television;" by striking "and" and on line 17 following "legislators" by inserting "; and members' spouses and their children". The motion was seconded by Rep. Quilici. Rep. Vincent said he intended to vote against the motion without doing anything further with the bill on the floor. The question was called, and the motion CARRIED with Rep. Vincent dissenting.

Rep. Brown said that in talking with several members of his party, they wanted "aides and interns" returned to the language. On that basis, Rep. Brown moved to amend HR 1, page 2, line 15, following "session" by inserting "legislative aides and interns". There being no second, the motion died.

Rep. Hannah stated that the Republican caucus indicated that they desired to return to the 2 hour prior to commencement and one-half hour after recess lobby rule. Rep. Addy moved to amend on page 2, line 22, following, "prohibited" by inserting "during the session and within 2 hours prior to the commencement of a session and within 2 hours after recess or adjournment". The motion was seconded by Rep. Vincent. Rep. Brown objected to the motion because he preferred the original language. The question was called, and the motion CARRIED 6-4. (See Roll Call Vote.)

Rep. Vincent pointed out that there was considerable support in his caucus for a 40-member sign up to bring a committee report out on the floor.

Rep. Marks brought up another matter for discussion having to do with bill distribution. He thought that 6-22 of the

Joint Rules should be changed to accommodate the letter of the law. He feels this change would be beneficial to both the Senate and the House by allowing less than one day to elapse between the time a committee approved bill is placed on members' desks. Rep. Ramirez was concerned about this particular change because some people like to have the bill packets in order to study the second reading bills. He hoped something could be worked out where legislators could be given an option of having those bills available for study.

Rep. Mercer suggested that the packets to be considered the following day be made available a day ahead of time for placement on desks.

Chuckie Cramer, Sergeant-at-Arms, was concerned with this method because she thought some of the packets might be accidentally discarded by the legislators. She further said that the Senate makes the bills available instead of putting bills on senators' desks. Rep. Ramirez didn't think legislators would lose packets as they would lose bills.

In response to a question by Chairman Hannah, Mrs. Cramer said in this particular system, the bills that are not covered that day are carried forward to the next day's packet. Rep. Marks pointed out that this would be a Joint Rules Committee decision anyhow. The committee as a whole approved of Rep. Mercer's suggestion.

Rep. Marks moved HR 1 DO PASS AS AMENDED. The question was called, and the motion CARRIED with Rep. Brown dissenting.

Rep. Marks stated that Woody Wright, attorney, was present to address the committee with regards to allowing the monitoring of all floor proceedings through electronic systems. Mr. Wright explained how the system would work. He said it would be very convenient for them to keep track of what was happening in the House. They would use a radio transmission or a wire hookup which would be fed through telephone lines. Rep. Brown asked how long it would be before a cost could be nailed down. He doesn't have any problem with the implementation of this system as long as the access fee would be paid by those people who want to use the system. Mr. Wright didn't have any cost figures to date, but he thought he could find out fairly quickly.

Rep. Quilici was concerned that if this goes through one office, it will have to be made available to all of the other offices. He feels the committee should further research this matter before making a definite decision.


Rep. Iverson stated that he is concerned with the precedence that may follow. It bothers him that access may be extended in a way the House might disapprove.

Chairman Hannah expressed his concerns regarding the overall impression made to the general public. Rep. Brown said he likes this idea for two reasons: 1) It gives the public better access to what goes on here; 2) It would do a lot for the judicial proceedings in this state. Rep. Ramirez, on the other hand, stated that he is concerned that this is not really public access as it is private access. It will be sold for the benefit of those persons who are in the business of making money -- those who represent clients in actions before this body.

Rep. Addy feels this is a wonderful idea and a step in the right direction. He said this procedure would create genuine public access, and it would also be nice to create a permanent public record on what was said and done.

It was the committee's decision to consider this matter later.

ADJOURN: Pursuant to a motion made by Rep. Quilici, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.



Rep. Tom Hannah, Chairman

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

January 5

19 37

RULES

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on _____

HR 1

report _____

do pass
 do not pass

be concurred in
 be not concurred in

as amended
 statement of intent attached

REP. TOM HANNAH

Chairman

TO ADOPT HOUSE RULES

BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Page 2, line 16.
Following: "television;"
Strike: "and"

Page 2, line 17.
Following: "legislators"
Insert: "; members' spouses and their children"
and

Page 2, line 22.
Following: "prohibited"
Insert: "during the session and within 2 hours prior to the
commencement of a session and within 2 hours after
recess or adjournment"

