

January 8, 1993

can control because of the lack of knowledge and experience of continually new senators. There was some misunderstandings this morning, I believe, in that vote to send it back to Committee on Committees. I think there was even some misrepresentations given to individuals on what that vote would do. Well, I knew what that vote would do, and you are seeing the evidence of it right now. Pirsch is out. Pirsch doesn't get what she wants.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Pirsch is being punished. I am not quite sure why. Maybe I will find out. Maybe it is for a number of things. I am sure it is for many of those things that I touched upon. I will vote against the acceptance of the Committee on Committees report and I guess it is in the majority's hands. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I really don't want to touch upon the specific report in front of us other than to indicate that I think it represents the best work that could be done by thirteen people who have the responsibility of filling the committee assignments. I would like to begin by giving credit to Senator Coordsen and Senator Robinson, who made, I think, some good suggestions in the Committee on Committees meeting that need to be put on the table here and I think the Rules Committee needs to consider a little bit, that we maybe need to take a look at changing the way in which the Committee on Committees operates a little bit. One of the things that has been suggested, I'd just like people to begin to think about it, I think might lead to a smoother process in the future, and there will always be some hard feelings, but maybe not as harsh a hard feelings as has resulted here, and that would be that the Committee on Committees would have a preliminary meeting. They would circulate a draft report of their preliminary findings, give...what the appropriate time period is, I don't know, 24 hours, 48 hours, I don't know what is appropriate opportunity, and then reconvene, and as a Committee on Committees have an opportunity to have input into the changes. And then when the report comes to the floor, it would be for a straight up or down vote. It would not be amendable at that time. I think that might accommodate those people who can make a strong case for changes from their initial assignments to committees an opportunity to have input into