

everything down to and including line 41 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"No vote on final passage of a bill shall be taken until the bill and all amendments thereto shall be in writing. Except during the first four days of a special session, or except upon the affirmative vote of three-fifths of all the members of the house in which suspension is requested, no vote on final passage of a bill shall be taken until the fifth calendar day after its introduction in the house of origin and until the second calendar day after it reaches the second house."

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment having been seconded by Delegate Bennett, the Chair recognizes Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Mr. Chairman and ladies and gentlemen, I believe Amendment No. 27 overcomes the difficulties we discussed when we were on Amendment No. 22 and also incorporates the earlier change we made this morning, which requires that the bill and all amendments thereto shall be in writing. This provides now that at both regular and special sessions of the General Assembly that no vote on final passage shall be taken until the bill and all amendments thereto shall be in writing. Then the next section beginning on line 8 provides that except for the first four days of a special session which means that therefore a special session can act in one, two, three, or four days if it so desires, that it is required that a bill be held before a final vote for four days in the house of origin and at least two days in the second house. However, both of these requirements of four days and two days can be suspended by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of all the members. I do believe that this accomplishes what we were seeking to do earlier and I urge its passage.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions of the sponsor of the amendment?

*(There was no response.)*

Are you ready for the question?

Is there any discussion? Delegate Burdette?

DELEGATE BURDETTE: What is the meaning of the word "suspension" as used.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where? Line 12?

DELEGATE BURDETTE: Correct. What is to be suspended.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: The constitutional requirement that no vote be taken on the final passage of the bill until the fifth calendar day after its introduction in the house of origin and the second calendar day after the second house.

DELEGATE BURDETTE: Thank you.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: You are welcome.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Delegate Marion?

DELEGATE MARION: I have a question of Delegate Gallagher.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE MARION: Does the exception relating to the first four days of a special session refer later in the amendment to the vote on final passage of a bill or the introduction of a bill?

Delegate Gallagher.

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Well, the exception applies first of all to any four days of the special session, and then the exception with respect to the affirmative vote of three-fifths of all the members of the house talks about the final passage. No vote on the final passage of the bill shall be taken until the fifth calendar day after its introduction and the second calendar day after it reaches the second house.

THE CHAIRMAN: The answer to the question I would take is that both exceptions apply to both operative clauses; is that correct?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: Correct, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does that answer your question, Delegate Marion?

DELEGATE MARION: I am not sure. May I pose it in the form of a specific instance? Suppose a bill is introduced on a third day of a special session —

THE CHAIRMAN: Complete your question.

DELEGATE MARION: Suppose a bill is introduced on the fourth day of a special session, can it be enacted immediately or must it wait for five days after its introduction?

DELEGATE GALLAGHER: No, you can move it right through, both the house and senate or senate and house, as the case may be.