

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 1 to Amendment No. 6 to Committee Recommendation S&E-1 by Delegate Chabot: On page 1, strike out lines 9 and 10 of Amendment No. 6 to Committee Recommendation No. S&E-1 and insert in lieu thereof the following: "nonsuspendable,".

THE CHAIRMAN: For what purposes does Delegate Sollins rise?

DELEGATE SOLLINS: We would like to have copies of Delegate Hostetter's amendment and also of Delegate Chabot's amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: We will suspend the proceedings until those have been distributed. Every legitimate complaint will be recognized. For what purpose does Delegate Kiefer rise?

DELEGATE KIEFER: A matter of personal privilege. I just would like to announce, sir, while all these amendments are floating around, that we are very happy to announce for and on behalf of Delegate Price, Bruce Price, the arrival of a son this morning at four o'clock, always an inconvenient time, weighing seven and a half pounds. Mother and child are doing well, and we wish them all well.

*(Applause.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: Does everyone have a copy of the amendment?

It is Amendment No. 3 really, but it has been renumbered 6. We will see that copies of the amendment are distributed.

I have been advised that there was not a sufficient number of copies originally printed and I think this possibly accounts for the shortage. Does everyone have a copy of the amendment?

We are short on copies of the amendment so we cannot proceed until we have a sufficient number of copies supplied. I am advised they will be here shortly.

In the meantime, do you have any objection to proceeding with Delegate Chabot's amendment to the amendment? We will not take any votes until everyone is supplied with the basic amendment, and I am just wondering if there would be any objection to proceeding with Delegate Chabot's amendment to the amendment, with the proviso that he make a full explanation of exactly what his amendment to the amendment is doing and with the proviso further that we will not take any vote until everyone is supplied with copies of both the amendment and the Chabot amendment.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Sybert.

DELEGATE SYBERT: Mr. Chairman, in order to make certain we have the right copy of what we are supposed to be considering, I have before me one marked Amendment No. blank to Amendment No. 3. Would that be a correct copy?

THE CHAIRMAN: That is correct.

DELEGATE SYBERT: Should that not be marked now Amendment No. 6 to Amendment No. 5?

THE CHAIRMAN: No, Amendment No. 1 to Amendment No. 6.

DELEGATE SYBERT: Thank you very much. It is very important to clarify the situation. The Clerk will read to you exactly what is before us.

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THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Chabot, who will give us a full explanation.

DELEGATE CHABOT: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this amendment is to preserve Delegate Hostetter's objective, apparently, of rejecting the Commission's language and to preserve the present requirement that as to each bill that the legislature wants to make nonsuspendable, it has to go through a procedure clearly designated to all its members that the bill would be nonsuspendable. In this matter, as I say, it is in contradiction to Amendment No. 5, which had been introduced and then withdrawn a few minutes ago, and in this matter it is in agreement with the objective of the Committee.

However, the Committee having seen what has happened with the use of the word "emergency" and the definition which presently appears in the Constitution, and with the way the courts have handled the use of the word "emergency", at least with regard to public general laws, the Committee had concluded that there is no longer any need for preserving this use of the word, which simply deludes both the public and perhaps to some extent the members of the General Assembly. The use of the word "emergency" in this manner, although it is twenty-five years old, has deteriorated into an essentially Mickey Mouse