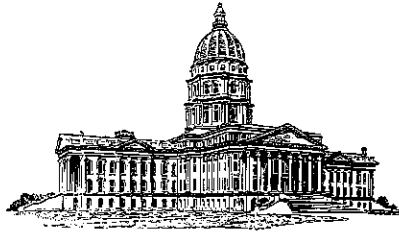


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**DON SCHROEDER**

DISTRICT 74

Testimony to House Rules Committee

Testimony regarding changes to Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives

Having Paygo (Joint Rule 6 of Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives) in the Joint Rules could be problematic. Listed here are three issues I see with the inclusion of Joint Rule 6:

1. The Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives defines how to start and end session and the flow of information and conference committee reports between the two chambers. The 'Paygo' rule, which is Joint Rule 6, does not fit with the other provisions.
2. The Legislature is a self-governing body, meaning we make our own rules. The Senate and the House are also autonomous, and each determines their own rules. With Joint Rule 6, the Senate has a certain ability to influence House actions. Both bodies should remain independent in that regard.
3. Inclusion of 'Paygo' in Joint Rule 6 could create a conflict. If the House should at some point determine it is necessary to suspend House Rule 2110, such as an emergency, how does that affect Joint Rule 6? Can the House unilaterally suspend Joint Rule 6 when they are agreed to by both bodies? That is what could create the conflict.

If the Senate wants to have Paygo as the House does, they should put it in the Senate Rules. It should not be in the Joint rules for the above stated reasons.

Thank you for allowing the privilege to address this issue before the House Rules Committee.