

May 14, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Mr. President, I think it's too bad we're wasting time on this. I would have agreed with Senator Burbach originally when we started all this. We've been offering, members of this body, the same amendment over and over again. We've been accepting them. I think ... you know I'm totally opposed to Senator Mahoney's amendment. I'm totally in support of his right to make another attempt. It's too bad to have to do the overruling and so forth. I think out of fairness, to what's happened the last ten days, this is what we have to do.

PRESIDENT: Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, in order to make this ... This would be my closing if you would be satisfied.

PRESIDENT: The Chair wants to explain its position also, so go ahead.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Fine. May I just say then that I just want to re-echo the words that we have in the last ten days, probably the last month, submitted a similiar amendment with maybe a change here and a comma there, and a paragraph here. I, this time, changed this time in placing the page and the line number first instead of last. I just quickly say to you that if this was the issue then I would drop it a dollar or drop it \$5,000. The question is I think that I ought to have the right to do as we have been doing in the past days, in past weeks.

PRESIDENT: The Chair's position is to simply rule on a point of order that Senator Clark brought up. Under the rules the Chair has no choice. That does not mean that this isn't the way it ought to go. As far as previous matters, if the Chair is well aware of a clear situation the Chair probably has the right to initiate a ruling. Ordinarily the membership is much more familiar with these matters ... of the substance of the matters than the Chair is. For that reason the Chair generally waits until a point of order is raised rather than initiating a ruling. Do you have anything further Senator Clark?

SENATOR CLARK: I would just like to explain to Senator Mahoney. I'm not against him one way or the other. I think he has a perfect right to lower this \$5,000 or raise it \$5,000. I'm just trying to bring up a point of order so we can have some order out of chaos.

PRESIDENT: Well that's the Chair's position. The Chair has absolutely no interest in the substance of the amendment. The question is shall the Chair be sustained. Record your vote. Ordinarily when th rulings of the Chair are appealed the Chair doesn't ask for votes because it's usually decided pretty clearly. I think we should have a clear vote here so that we can move more rapidly. It looks clear. Record.