

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hoagland, did you wish to speak to the germaneness situation?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes, I would like to speak briefly, Mr. Speaker, in support of your ruling. Now earlier I read the language of Rule 7 (3d) and I think it is just clear from the language of the rule that we adopted about four sessions ago that the Speaker is right. Germane amendments relate only to the details of the specific subject of the bill. As I indicated the bill deals with pickles. If you read the first two pages of the bill you can see it deals with pickles. Furthermore, it must be in the natural and logical sequence to the subject matter of the original proposal. How are video slot machines, authorized by a vote of the people, a logical and natural sequence of a bill to regulate pickle cards? A nongermane amendment includes one that relates to a substantially different subject, or accomplishes a substantially different purpose. Now what could be substantially different, what purpose could be substantially different than what is being tried here on Select File on LB 408? So, clearly under the language of the rule, Speaker Nichol is correct. But let me ask you also to step back a little bit, colleagues, and take a look at what is going on here today. How many days are we until the end of the session? We are about 30 days from the end of the session. We have a bill on Select File, 24, 24 days until the end of the session. We have a bill on Select File dealing with pickle cards. We have a highly publicized bill that is still in the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee that would legalize slot machines. How many pages long is it, Senator Hefner? Fifty, sixty pages long, depending on what version of the amendments we are talking about. Now public attention has focused on that bill in the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee. That is what the public perceives this Legislature's decision to be with respect to whether we're going to have slot machines or not. So what does this say about the process, about the way we approach legislation in this body? Yesterday afternoon, sometime between three-thirty and adjournment, this amendment was put in. It was printed in the Journal, the first time we saw it was this morning. The first time most of us had any knowledge of this thing was this morning. If you look in the Journal, it is basically the last thing that appears in this