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SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Visitors introduced.)
Senator Chambers to open on the bracket motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, the other bill that I had offered an amendment on is the next one coming up where they want to raise some additional fees, and I'm going to fight that. You don't need to wait eight hours to try to shut me up. If you got 33 votes, and you had more than 33, shut me up now, because I'm not going to voluntarily shut up, and I've got other motions that I'm going to put on this bill and I'm going to take all the time I'm allowed under the rules to talk on these motions. You want me to tell you why? Because this bill is like a touchstone to the rest of the session, in a manner of speaking. I don't know how many bills there are before us to raise fees. Now some of you, if you're going to go along with allowing the raising of fees when they're not even needed, to be consistent, ought to vote to raise fees on every fee bill increase that comes before us, but I will not. I use my judgment. If I think there is a compelling case made for an increase in a fee, I will go for that. We have been told there is no need to raise these fees, so why do you go along? Why? Don't ask me. The greater affinity there is between two objects the more similar they are. Were I similar in my mental makeup, in my intellectual processes to my colleagues, perhaps I could speculate about what their reasons are for why they vote the way they do. As a member of a Legislature, no reason needs to be given. No reason is required to be given. But if we take seriously our job, we ought to have reasons for what we do. This session is the money session, the taxing session, the revenue-raising session. Other people have their pet bills and their pet projects. They will join the discussion when those items come up. I'm going to be in all of the discussions; not just these fee bills, but others. I want to stake out my position and my territory very clearly, and I do that because I owe that to the public. Nobody in this Chamber can make me do anything, except shut up when you invoke cloture, because I play by the rules. But I owe something to the public because I placed myself before the public, that comprises my district anyway, and persuaded them that they should send me down to this Legislature by voting for me. There has to be a quid pro quo. In exchange for their voting for me and sending me down here,