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FLOOR DEBATE

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I also, or, Mr. Speaker, I have filed a motion to suspend the germaneness rule to commit...permit consideration of AM0821. AM0821 actually addresses four different bills that appeared before the committee. All were very small. Two of them addresses that prescription drugs. Those two, I think, would be...would fall underneath our germaneness rule. But two of the bills, one introduced by Senator Synowiecki which addresses food stamps for felons, those individuals, and he'll...I'll allow some of my time once we get to that point for him to introduce that, but for a person who is convicted of a drug-related felon could be eligible for food stamps unless they had three or more convictions. Certainly, we find people that have done things in younger days that they would not in other times, and so they would be eligible for that food stamps. Also, another bill, LB 666, which I introduced on behalf of the American Heart Institute...Association, addresses automatic defibrillators, and that also could maybe be declared as not germane to this bill. So with that, I will conclude the introduction of the committee amendment and would be happy to take up the motion to suspend the rules for germaneness consideration. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Jensen. We will proceed, first of all, I guess, with discussion on the committee amendments. Senator Chambers, your light is on first.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, this is going to be an interesting procedure and I'm going to observe it. But before it goes too far, I want to mention something about germaneness. There is a difference between germaneness as anticipated in our rules and germaneness in a legal sense. In a legal sense and a constitutional sense, a bill can only have one subject, and this training of guard dogs and these other items put more than one subject into the bill. And you can do it if you want to, but I think it's unconstitutional. A bill can only have one subject. Now if some of Senator Jensen's items relate to licensure, sometimes you can kind of get some wiggle room there and say that is the subject, and you're talking about licensure of various areas but they are all done under the auspices of Health and Human Services or a part thereof, and every one of these bills would deal with licensure. But when you talk about this person training guard dogs and creation of a new crime, I don't