

January 13, 1981

are amendments on file, then you have to slip in there some-
place your own motion to suspend the rules and end debate.
That is sometimes very difficult to do if the opposition
has a long, long line of amendments on the bill. So this
provides a direct procedure by which there can be cloture
and I would say just in ending that in my two years in the
Legislature, in my opinion I guess, there has been no bill
that has needed more than two and a half hours debate on
any one stage. So I don't think it is a harsh rule the way
it is but I am not inflexible on it either. I would be
interested to see what the opinion of the body is. Thank
you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I rise with
mixed emotion on this particular rule change. When I have
the votes and would like to see the bill go across and it
is harassed and harangued and harassed and delayed and
stalled, I become very frustrated and at that point I wish
this rule were in effect. I have also been on the other
side when the bill is going across and I am harassing and
haranguing and harassing and a lot of times in my own
opinion I think I have information that is pertinent to the
bill and would like that opportunity to express that par-
ticular information, even conceding sometimes that the bill
should be passed but certain things should be put into the
record indicating legislative intent on a specific piece of
bill...on a specific piece of legislation. I really think
philosophically those who have supported unlimited intro-
duction of bills for individual members, to be philosophically
pure and to be consistent, they are going to have to vote
against this cloture rule. I really believe that an attempt
to stifle debate at any stage, at any point, at any time is
wrong. Here again we get into the argument of, well, is
that really important. Well, there again it depends on
the individual senator's point of view and I guess for a
group to say a specific point of view is not pertinent or
not proper is absolutely wrong in this body, as a matter of
fact, probably in this country. So I know that it is very
difficult after hours and hours of debate and now Senator
Beutler says two and a half hours is enough. That is seven
and a half hours. When I see certain cases go before various
courts, various tribunals, and sometimes they last days,
weeks, months, even, bringing out of the pertinent infor-
mation, I think it is wrong for us to say that seven and
a half hours will cover any possible legislation. So I
think that I will personally vote against this cloture rule.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.