

May 12, 1981

LB 118

happened here just not too many weeks ago, but they adjourned so there was no way that I would have known that they needed to have it extended.

SENATOR DWORAK: Thank you, Senator Maresh. I have a question of the Clerk. I know we have discussed germaneness when we have had issues on the floor where we have gutted bills on the floor or had amendments that were questionable as far as germaneness. I can't recall where a bill in committee was totally changed from one subject matter to another. Is this within the purview of our rules, Pat? To strike the initial subject matter completely in committee and insert entirely different subject matter as it goes across the floor?

CLERK: Senator, it is not uncommon to have a committee insert an entire new subject matter in the form of committee amendments to a bill. That is not unusual.

SENATOR DWORAK: If you were to raise a question of germaneness, the fact that the whole bill was changed, would that question then become moot?

CLERK: Senator, I would feel more comfortable if you would address that to the Chair, to be very honest with you.

SENATOR DWORAK: I would direct that question to the Chair.

SENATOR CLARK: I don't know how many times I have seen it happen, Senator Dworak. To completely change a bill all the way around....

SENATOR DWORAK: But I am talking about in the stage of the committee, Mr. Chairman, in all respect.

SENATOR CLARK: Well, I didn't....(interruption).

SENATOR DWORAK: I know on the floor we are aware of that, but when this happens in committee, does the floor have an opportunity to challenge or act on that?

SENATOR CLARK: As far as I am concerned it is all right. I don't know that it is all right, but it has happened so many times, but it's in keeping with the prerogative of what we do.

SENATOR DWORAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR CLARK: Right or wrong.

SENATOR DWORAK: Thank you.