

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, to be in the spirit of the discussion, the rule book is the Bible of the Legislature. You know that the Bible is considered a supermarket. You go through and pick out what you want and you reject what you don't want and that is why so many confusions and wars are fought over the Bible although it is supposed to be divinely inspired and absolutely accurate. Now no claim of infallibility is made for the rules, but the rules are here and the rule says, "Every motion to reconsider shall take preference over all other questions except a motion to adjourn, and any issue which has been decided by the Legislature is a fit subject for reconsideration." Now Senator Beutler is a clear, logical and orderly thinker, and as he was talking about his argument, I am sure that he almost saw that he defeated himself because he made a reference to the law in terms of looking through the form to the substance. Well, Senator Beutler knows that there are steps that you take when you are cross-examining a witness and you cannot object to a question...to an answer that a witness gives until he gets ready to give the answer. So all we are dealing with is whether or not reconsideration is allowed. Under the rules it is. That is a legitimate issue and a vote can be taken. Now after the reconsideration is attempted, if the vote is aye, and then something is attempted to be done with the bill which is felt improper, then you argue that what is being attempted with this bill is not proper, but to do the rule, do violence to the rule which is being suggested by some of the members here today reminds me of what I saw in a picture called "Judge Roy Beam". This was a criminal cowboy who took over a town. He built the town and he was the final law. So as the town built up and new influences came to play, a young lawyer came to town and he wanted some land for a certain purpose and he told Judge Roy Beam that the law allowed him to take the land for this purpose and Judge Roy Beam said, "Where is that in the law?" So the young lawyer produced a law book, showed it to Judge Roy Beam and Judge Roy Beam acted like a member of this Legislature. He took the page that the material was on, tore it out of the book and said, "That is bad law". So there was no more law. We shouldn't do that here. I don't like the amendment but, nevertheless, the rule does allow a reconsideration and I think we ought to allow the motion to be voted on, up or down, and here is what the members who are opposed to it can do, take solace in the fact that the rule also says, "If the Legislature shall refuse to reconsider or upon reconsideration shall affirm its first decision, no further motion to reconsider shall be in order unless by unanimous consent." And I think what some of you can argue is that what all of these things are in dealing with