

as quickly as the thing was typed up. He did it in the normal course of business and I don't think that this ought to be a loophole for Senator Labeledz to get 25 instead of 30 votes. The third point I would make goes to a concrete example of what happened in this session of the Legislature. The Public Health and Welfare Committee voted to hold LB 924 and study it. I discussed that with Mr. Murphy, the representative of the chiropractors. He indicated, well, I guess that is all we can hope for and his indication to me was, well, that is it for this year, we will come back next year. So then he quickly goes to work and scurries up the 25 votes to pull the bill from committee. Now if the committee had known he was going to take that kind of action, we probably would have killed the bill but the point is that what can happen in these circumstances is I can be assured...the committee chairman could be assured by members of the Legislature that there is not going to be a move to raise the bill and not be in any rush to report it and then it is 25 instead of 30 votes. We don't need that kind of manipulation. It is clear, it is really clear that when a committee kills a bill, the bill is dead...

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute left.

SENATOR CULLAN: ...and it is totally irrelevant when that bill is actually reported to the floor of the Legislature. That invites manipulation we don't need in the system. Senator Labeledz is clearly wrong in this case. I will support her on her bill to reinstate studded snow tires but I can't support her when she is clearly wrong on the rules.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, I would like to remind Senator Cullan of the night that we were at the Nebraska Club, Senator Labeledz and I were having dinner, and Senator Cullan came over and said you know that little son of a gun Don Wesely went and filed a motion today to have his bill brought out on the floor because we failed to report it to the Clerk after 20 days. Now I am not going to suggest, and Senator Cullan I want you to understand, I am not even hinting at this, that Senator Cullan purposely held that bill up so that Senator Wesely would be able to have it brought out with 25 votes, that is not what I am saying. I am saying that chairmen can at times manipulate things for friends on committees or off of committees or whatever. So the argument, you know, that chairmen cannot manipulate things is not true. In Senator Wesely's case, he didn't get 25 votes so we never had this precedent come up before today. Senator Beutler, I would like to ask you a question.