

different bills and about getting things done. I think we need to sit back and relax and follow our rules and not get into the psychological situation where we are stuffing things into bills and passing some bad legislation because time is short. Up until this point in this session and in every session I participated in we have followed the rule that if something is not in the same chapter in the same article it is not germane. Now I have complained about that rule on a number of occasions because I think it is too broad a rule, that in fact a great many things that are in the same chapter in the same article are not really germane to the concept that is dealt with in many bills. So it is a rule that is not entirely logical but which puts an outside limitation on the concept of germaneness. It is a very broad rule inside the same chapter and article, there is really too much you can do. It is too broad a rule. But now today you are being asked to take a very broad rule and essentially wipe out all distinctions whatsoever that we have relied upon in the past. The two things deal with trucks so they are germane. Well, I submit to you that if you are going to follow that logic, we are in real trouble here. If something deals with schools, does that mean that anything dealing with schools is germane? It opens up about 300 pages of the statutes if you make that kind of a rule. Or anything dealing with cars. I don't think that what you are being asked to do today in overruling the Speaker is going to give you any kind of good precedent to follow. In fact, I think it destroys the one important precedent that we have had as far as germaneness is concerned. It has already been mentioned that we have a number of bills, a number of priority bills that may well not get heard this session because of our time constraints. And now we are eating up more time on nonpriority bills because people are attempting to put their nonpriority bills into priority bills. So it circumvents the whole intention of the priority bill system and it circumvents all our good intentions of allocating our time in a reasonable manner to those things that are most important. So it is a bad precedent in that regard in that it allows the circumvention of the priority bill system. So for those two reasons, to maintain at least some kind of order on the question of germaneness and not to allow the question of germaneness or the lack of a principle of germaneness inundate us with amendments towards the end of this session, I would ask you to sustain the Speaker so that we have at least one operating principle on the question of germaneness. It is a very important principle. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Goodrich.