

January 9, 1989

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Senator Chambers said about the last rule we debated, this amendment, if you are of Senator Chambers made of mind, maybe makes a bad amendment just a little bit better but it still is going to be bad. It simply adds the word "principal", so in the case where you have 20 members co-sign on a bill, only the principal introducer as identified by the Speaker will be the one that can make the cloture rule. It is as simple as that. I would hope that this amendment would be easily adopted, and then we can get back to the actual debate of the cloture rule.

PRESIDENT: We are now on the Moore amendment. Senator Haberman, did you wish to speak about the Moore amendment? Okay, if not, I will leave your name on for the general discussion later.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I will wait.

PRESIDENT: Okay, Senator Schmit, did you wish to talk about the Moore amendment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Moore is starting rather early in the session this year to adopt the practice of making something which is objectionable a little less objectionable until he gets the 25 votes or whatever votes are needed. I would just like to say that Senator Chambers is right. It used to be every year when we met we would go through the ritual of trying to box in Chambers and DeCamp. Well, now we have got rid of DeCamp, and so we only have to box in Chambers, but as you look down the road, I can see among some of these upstart freshmen some people who are going to follow in Senator Chambers role, and I can see some freshmen who can probably just about out debate Ernie. And so then we are doing to have to include them in this kind of a ritual because they are going to start getting uppity, and the next thing you know, us old-timers are going to get tired of having to stand up and talk so long. Although, Senator Chambers, in all honesty, I kind of enjoyed being on the other end of that eight and a half hours of debate. It kind of sharpened my wits a little bit, not too much, but it was kind of interesting. The point I want to make is this. As Senator Chambers has just said, there isn't any way you are going to box in a member who wants to use the rules to make a point, and as I look back, we have not, of course, been able to determine all of the beneficial or, perhaps, nonbeneficial impact of LB 775, but if 772 and 773 are any criteria, then it might well have been