

January 9, 1989

be a priority motion and give the 30 their will despite what those who are in the minority would desire? The aim is to cut off debate anyway so cut it all off and cut it off sooner and even short-circuit those motions that are already on the Clerk's desk. This is a motion that, like the others, I hope you will accept. But if you don't, it doesn't make any difference at all, because if Senator Moore has a bill and he invokes cloture and he has another bill, then he's going to have to invoke cloture on that one because it's necessary sometimes to continue discussions and we all know this is done on occasion. And, Senator Moore, I recognize that people are growing weary and they might be saying, because they're faint of heart, this is exactly what Senator Moore means, this is why we should have cloture. We shouldn't have to sit up here and listen to a discussion of a rules change. We should just be able, by God, to go ahead and vote, and all leave here feeling good and everybody being friends. But I'm always at the end of the session able to point back to this beginning and say, you all voted for that rule, I voted against it. And, after today, we're going to have the name of everybody who voted and how they voted and when I bring it back then I can even go to the discussion that we had that will be recorded in the transcript. Some of the new senators are not aware of the consequences of their votes so I will forgive them except we expect them to know what they're voting for. We expect them to be informed and they're not going to be able to say later on when it looks like they made a foolish move, well, I was new and I didn't know. Their constituents send them down here to know. They send them down here to be informed and they expect them, when they make a vote, to mean what they're voting and to vote what they mean and know the significance and consequences and ramifications. If they're following behind others, they should pick one to follow who they feel has thought the issue through and even if wrong can at least give a rationalization that will calm the constituents, make it seem like there was a reason for that kind of a vote. These discussions like we're having today will occur periodically throughout the session and probably I will be the one to bring them up. I see my responsibility as a legislator not only to try to seek wise and just legislation but this is a forum, this is democracy in action, supposedly, and we have a job or a function related to education to carry out also. There are issues that come before us that a lot of people genuinely may not understand, so it's necessary that there be some explanation and elucidation of those issues and that's what I'm doing here. It should be clear to everybody that the third