

January 9, 1989

limits on like that. Another way to limit filibustering by amendments would be to say that, you know, if you're going to offer more than five amendments, you must need more than one co-sponsor. That would take care of it, and it would. But the reason I personally am opposed to all of them because I think then you really are squelching a member of this body and that is not my intent. My intent, quite simply, is to allow the members of this Legislature to have a rule in place where one member, by his or herself, can hold us hostage for a number of days. And you have heard a variety of comments from Senator Chambers specifically this morning and afternoon about what he will do with this rule, and I'm not denying that he probably can do all the things that he said, but whether or not you have this rule or not, he is going to do that. And I think the members of this body would be wise to be like most of the other legislatures in the state, for instance, I mean if you wanted to be tight, the State of New Mexico, the House has a similar rule where it is three hours of debate. The Senate has a similar rule where it is six hours of debate. The New York Assembly has a two-hour rule. We are not being unreasonable here. If I was an unreasonable person, I would have adopted all those other three amendments that would have really squelched a member, but that is not the intent I have here. My intent is to have a set of rules that this Legislature can operate under where one member, by his or herself, could bring us to our knees and even with this rule they can do it for a period of time but we'll eventually have the final say. Now, as you vote on this, I hope you remember those...remember back to those days when we've sat here...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR MOORE: ...wishing we had a rule to get around it. I'm not saying, I'm not claiming we box Senator Chambers or anyone in here, but we'll have a cloture rule on the books that will allow us to operate in an orderly fashion and I think the taxpayers of this state deserve that out of us.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. You have heard the closing and the question is the adoption of the amendment to Rule 7 by adding a new Section 10, the so-called cloture rule. Those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Record vote read as found on page 121 of the