

looked at the selection of members of the Retirement Committee as being somewhat out of sync with the way we choose all of the other memberships and the way we choose all of the other chairmen, and that is simply what we're trying to do. That...for it to get tied in with personalities of what particular chairman should have particular seats, I think is not particularly good worthwhile debate and not particularly good discussion. I, therefore, am going to oppose this particular amendment to the amendment. After it is disposed of, I'm going to file a request with the Clerk to have this issue divided because I think part of what Senator Warner is suggesting is excellent, that we should make this an effective date after the conclusion of this term. I think, at least in my mind, it's probably an oversight from the committee that we didn't do that. I would suggest that our system of choosing memberships to committees works quite well. If those individuals in the first congressional district caucus feel that the chair of the Appropriations Committee should sit on the Retirement Committee, they are certainly welcome to have that individual represent them on the Retirement Committee and he could make strong reasons as to why he should be. But to stipulate in statute that a particular member of...chairman of a particular committee should serve on a particular committee, I don't think is good policy, therefore, I'm going to oppose this particular amendment to the amendment and will be opposing the portion of the Warner amendment that reinstates the chair of the Appropriations Committee as an ex officio member of this committee.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Question has been called. Do I see five hands to cease debate? I do. Those in favor of closing debate at this point please vote aye, opposed nay. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. For purposes of closing on the amendment to the amendment, Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Chairman and members, just so you understand something here. Couldn't help but overhear one of the senators close to me say there must be something going on. Members, there is nothing going on. There is nothing going on at all.