

reads and pays attention anyway. But I want this discussion on the record. If you all believe that what has just happened in rejecting that first part of the rule suspension does not change that motion, then I would like you to explain to me what the significance of that vote was. If we have several parts and we divide the question, and we vote each part of it, and we reject that first part, that part, how can it still be a part of the motion? And if, despite our rejecting it, it remains a part of the motion, there is no purpose in dividing the question. So I want you all to explain to me, to whom English is not an indigenous language, English is not the native tongue of Africa, and I am an African-American, with the emphasis on African. In trying to deal with this foreign language, it seems to me that words should have a meaning, it seems to me that rules should have a logic. So I am going to state the way it seems to me, then I will stand to be corrected by those who understand this language better than I do and the meaning of rules because I admit I am baffled. If there are five points to a motion or a question and we divide the question, we take each part individually. If we reject the first part, have we not eliminated that from the motion? And if we have not, then what is the purpose of dividing the question and taking a vote on each part? My understanding was that if we take a vote and we vote aye on part one, that remains; we vote no on part two, that is out; we vote aye on part three, that remains; we vote no on part four; that is out; we vote aye on part five, so then the final vote is on one, three and five because two and four have been eliminated. Now if I'm incorrect, I would like for somebody to correct me. And if I am correct, then the ruling of the Chair is in error and the motion, in fact, has been acted on by the body and in effect amended which means that it cannot be withdrawn by the introducer over an objection and that is why I say that the Chair's ruling is incorrect.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Further discussion on the ruling of the Chair. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker, I rise to, I guess, agree with Senator Chambers, technically, because you read that the very rule that we just tried to suspend, 73A, once motions are stated, they may be withdrawn or modified by the mover before a decision, amendment or ordering of a vote has been made. Obviously, we're past that point. I think Senator Chambers is technically right and, for the sake of the body, I guess I would urge him to withdraw that so we can get on with business, and