

amendments ought to be considered. To do that, we need to maintain not a wide open germaneness policy, something that is clearly nongermane, a sales tax exemption, a property tax exemption, clearly would not be germane to this section. But in order for us to maintain our tools as a body to intelligently deal with all of the problems we have before us, we need to maintain...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: a germane...set a precedent for a germaneness ruling that allows us, as a body, to continue to do our business. I think the amendment that Senator Wehrbein has offered, I frankly don't know whether I agree with it or disagree with it, but I think it is clearly germane to this bill and I would like to see it considered along with the rest of Senator Chizek's bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Anyone else care to speak? Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, I will be very brief. I agree with what Senator Wehrbein and Senator Withem have said. We can rule so narrowly that we cannot even offer any kind of substantive amendment if someone wants to get down to that kind of a perspective. I respect the Speaker's position but I guess I find it very, very difficult, after being here and watching some of the bills that have come out of the Judiciary Committee prior to the tenure of the present Chairman, when almost anything went in. You could have called them the garbage bills of the session because anything and everything went, and frequently I found my bills that had been introduced in that committee attached to some unrelated, nonrelated bill. I think one time there were 15 separate issues, subjects, within a bill, which set some kind of a record. It wasn't very good legislation, I agree, but I think that if you will take a good look at what we are doing here, you will understand that they both address the issue, as Senator Withem has said, of exemptions from a certain kind of tax and it certainly is germane. The philosophy behind the amendment ought to be determined at a different time. The point of view of myself and Senator Wehrbein as to whether it is correct or incorrect ought to be determined at a different time, but the germaneness ruling clearly ought to be on the side of Senator Wehrbein. Thank you very much. I support his motion to override the Speaker.