

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Anyone else? Anyone else? Senator Warner, would you care to speak?

SENATOR WARNER: Yeah, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would rise to support the Speaker's ruling. It is exceedingly clear, it seems to me, that germane amendments relate only to the details of the specific subject of the bill, and this, obviously, goes beyond the specific details of the bill. I, too, am supportive of a narrow amendment but for a variety of reasons, and we all know what we are all talking about. And that is the use of amendments to circumvent the priority system, that is what we are talking about. The first thing most of us do that have been here any time, and I have already done it, of the four or five bills that I have an interest in, you start looking for what bill could I maybe conceivably amend it into and circumvent the priority system. Once we start down this route, as we could do, then where we will end up that many of you will never see your priority bill considered because we are going to spend hours and hours and hours of arguing the amendments into some bill that goes total beyond the purpose of that bill, and I would urge that we support the Speaker in his ruling, and get established early on that for this session that a narrow interpretation is what we are going to deal with, and that we are not going to go intentionally circumventing the priority system which will leave many of you out of bills that you think you are designating to be considered because of the long hours we will spend on discussions of germaneness, just as we are now, and then, secondly, they, frequently, will be controversial subject matter in themselves, and then we will spend hours on that. If you have a first choice, make it a priority. If it is not a priority, then it ought to wait its turn in the normal order of events and not consistently use the amendment route to do things that we otherwise did not want to do as a matter of a priority.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. The Chair assumes there are no other members that care to speak, and the question...would you care to close, Senator Wehrbein?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Just briefly. I had my light on, was it working? Maybe they are not. Anyway, Mr. Speaker, members, I just will simply to say that I think it does fit into this section. I can appreciate the fact that the definition ought to be narrowly defined. However, we are talking about, in my