

clearly laid out, am going to be consistent on the issue, and feel that when you are talking about issues such as employment and you have an issue of probationary period, whether I agree with the amendment or not, and I clearly did not, I felt that it was a germane amendment to the bill that we are dealing with. Now what Senator Hefner did here with the suspension of the rules is what is going to happen because of the narrow definition and the narrow germaneness ruling that we have adopted. This is clearly what is going to happen and much of our time is going to be spent first on the amendment that is offered, and then on the germaneness issue, and when that fails, and then we move to the suspension of the rules. And if that is the course that the body wishes to take, I have no problem with that. It is just that, again, we are going to lose sight of the issue that is before us. We are going to spend most of our time posturing, I think, on these parliamentary procedures and lose sight of the issue at hand, which is LB 89. The narrow germaneness ruling is going to, I didn't think it was going to come back and bite us so quickly, I am glad it did, just to make a point, but it will continue to be there as we move into the second half of the session. And we have a priority bill system that tends to clog the system so that some of those other bills that are possibly not as controversial, but yet will not be heard, won't be able to be amended into bills that are before the body. And when you adopt that narrow definition or that narrow germaneness ruling, you are going to see this type of procedural, I guess, game go on because we are going to take it step by step. We will move to overrule the Chair. The Chair probably won't be overruled. Whether you agree with that or not, fine. But then you move to the suspension of the rules and we debate that, and I guess I don't have any problem with the moving to overrule the Chair, but I think when we move to the suspension of the rules, and I would have supported Senator Hefner in his previous motion, but to suspend the rules at this point, I think, is something that the body should not do. If we are going to adopt that type of a germaneness ruling, then let's live with it. It is clearly what the Speaker the other day on March 13th told us was the procedure. We always have the option of suspending the rules, he said, and I don't think that the germaneness ruling should, in essence, become a move to a suspension of the rules, and I think we are heading down a path that we probably won't want to, and I would urge us to, at some point, reconsider that germaneness ruling, but at this point I would oppose Senator Hefner's motion to suspend the rules.