

hadn't before, but to take any further time, I think many of us feel very reluctant at this stage on General File, not having had a chance to look at these amendments, not having had a chance to see if there could be any discussion leading to some compromise, maybe the better course of action would be to allow the bill to move forward and to take those amendments and to see if there...that some discussion could provide some fruitful results instead of continuing down the path that we're going. You've made the point. I've gotten the message, I think others have as well and we'd like to proceed with other issues and at the same time recognize that you're raising legitimate points. I don't know what more to say and this isn't the way to even say it, but I'd like to ask your help in perhaps expediting this issue a little bit. And I know, I just talked to Senator Ashford and I know he is willing to sit down and talk, but at this stage and at this time, it seems like a very difficult thing to do and we just can't sort through these amendments in the circumstance that we're in, so I'm just suggesting that this may be not a very fruitful use of our time and I'd like to ask for the chance to proceed.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hall, please, followed by Senator Ashford.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members. The...and, Senator Wesely, I appreciate your comments. I'd be more than happy to bracket the bill for a week and work out agreements while the bill is still on General File, but if I advance it over to Select File and agree to do that without any amendments, and I think many of these are...I think they are all good amendments. I think they are all justified and none of them are frivolous in any manner. But the issue of passing the bill over without any amendment would then, I guess, leave me at a disadvantage and I would be more than happy to bracket the bill today for a week, try to work with Senator Ashford and Senator Haberman and others on some of these issues that I have and move on to other business and come back and hopefully have one amendment that includes some of the provisions that I've offered here today. If that's not something that Senator Ashford is amenable to, I guess then we continue on. But with regard to the issue before us, what we're dealing with here is a definition of what an agreement is. This bill spells out the definitions for an agreement. All I am doing is taking oral out of the definition of agreement. So all you do, you strike that out of there. Everybody knows that they are playing the rules