

amendment is germane, then any amendment dealing with revenue can be added to any A bill, and all you have to do is pick up the sheet here and look at the amendments pending. I can...I can make an amendment to Senator Baack's bill on the...carrying out the...it says appropriate funds to carry out the provisions of the choice in education bill. Then if I add a sales tax and designate it for that particular purpose, that becomes germane? There is a bill here to carry out competency training for teachers. Does that mean that if I make an amendment on that bill to raise income taxes and designate those funds to go to that particular program, that's suddenly a germane amendment? If I make an amendment to...on Senator Chizek's bill to increase the number of district court judges and provide funds and set aside a fund for that, then suddenly an increase in property taxes or sales tax is germane to that amendment? That's absolutely absurd. It would be absurd, the people here would be criticizing and condemning the Education Committee had we added this amendment in our Education Committee meeting because they would have said, well, this is something that the Revenue Committee should have heard, this is something that the Revenue Committee should have ruled upon and it should have been subject to a full debate and a full hearing. There are plenty of other revenue bills pending in this Legislature. There are a number of them that have been advanced out of committee and some of them have been made priority bills that deal with the specific issue of raising revenue. And all Senator Schmit or anyone else would have to do is make an amendment to those bills, increase the sales tax, designate it for whatever particular purpose they would have, that, I would believe, would be a germane amendment. This amendment...this bill came out of Education Committee. It's in the chapter of the education laws. It's not in any way related to the bill itself. And just let me read once more the rule that we have and...because I think it's important to adhere to the rules. If we're not going to adhere to the rules, then we can just have a chaos here and anything can go. But it says germane amendments relate only to the details of the specific subject of the bill and must be in the natural and logical sequence of the subject matter of the original proposal. I submit to you that it is not germane, if, in fact, and that the ruling should be that this amendment is not germane. If, in fact, the majority of the body want to overrule the Chair, they can do that subsequent to that. But the proper ruling in this case is, I believe sincerely, that this amendment is not germane to this bill. I thank you.