

entirely different and distinct system. I know the way I would want the Chair to rule, but if there is going to be a strict adherence to the germaneness rule, and there should be a narrow construction, then I think this amendment has to be ruled nongermane, in my opinion.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Anyone else? Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I applaud the Chair's decision to have a tighter reading of the germaneness rule. We need to remember, as a body, that there is an avenue for relief. It is not to fight these germaneness decisions, it's to suspend the rules. Germaneness rule is ours, it is not constitutional, it is not by any other source. It is one that we choose for ourselves and we can, if we wish to, suspend it. It seems to me we ought to move through these decisions quickly and then go on to the larger question, will we suspend the germaneness rule to allow a little broader application of more than one idea that the original introducer probably did not contemplate. Believe me, we have got a session filled with amendments coming before us that we will, if we don't start adopting a slightly different way of acting on the floor, will spend us hours and hours of debates on what is or is not germane. More readily available should be the option of asking the body to suspend the germaneness rule and attach an amendment, and on that notion, I think the body ought to be more liberal in its interpretation. I am prepared to support, by the way, a motion to suspend the rules to adopt or to consider, rather, the Ashford amendment. In the event the Chair rules this is not germane, I would support the Chair.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. I am assuming that you are prepared for a ruling by the Chair, and again using a very strict interpretation of previous rulings, it appears to the Chair that we are in different sections, we are talking about separate juvenile courts, and also then separate subject or section at the district court level. It is, therefore, the impression of the Chair that the amendment is not germane and is, therefore, out of order.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Ashford would then move to suspend Rule 7, Section 3(d) so as to permit consideration of his amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford.