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LB 147

would rather have done is have the same Chair rule on the germaneness issue each time so that we wouldn't be getting different applications of the germaneness issue depending on who happens to sit in the Chair at the time the germaneness question comes up. I think a narrow interpretation of the germaneness rule is correct. I think, and if, in fact, an amendment is necessary and it is important that it be added in this particular session or at this particular time, the motion to suspend the rules is available, and I applaud a narrow interpretation but, nevertheless, because of the importance of this particular amendment, I am going to vote to suspend the rules. I think that is the proper procedure to use. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I think the debate on the rule suspension should focus on this issue, is there enough exigent (sic), exigent circumstances, rather, to justify a rule suspension. Is there a need for this bill now? And I think there is. The reason I am going to vote to suspend the rules and act as quickly as I can is because the juvenile courts are the ones that handle abuse and neglect cases for children and there is an immense number of cases and files in this state. We have an abominable record. We need as much judicial oversight as possible. We cannot tolerate delays in actions in juvenile courts where the well-being of children is so seriously at stake. Juvenile judges, unlike other judges, work very much more personally in their oversight of cases, in their hearing of testimony, in their dealing with family members, in their discussion with the Child Protective Service representatives, and the like. It is a very trying job. It takes an immense amount of work. Omaha is in dire need for this kind of service and, in this case, delay is intolerable, a rule suspension is justified. Action this year, in my estimation, is justified. I, then, support the motion.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Korshoj.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. Five hands I do see. Shall debate now cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.