close?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Senator Withem used to be a teacher, used to be a Senator Withem, there's a difference between describing or explaining what something is and defining it. definition is the bare bones. Reconsideration, as is written in our rule book, does tell us what constitutes a reconsideration. I was elaborating in order to make clear what it is we're talking about under what you're proposing to have the Chair do. So I'm going to try to make it as clear as I can. Let me say that the question that had been decided earlier, so we can bring up Senator Withem's question or issue, is whether or not there would be the one-year sunset. So Senator Bernard-Stevens offers an amendment that says there will be a two-year sunset and a sales tax. If Senator Haberman's motion to strike the sales tax adopted, what is left is still a motion to put a two-year sunset in place of one. How is that a reconsideration? On its face, that is not a reconsideration. But even, if the effect of adopting an amendment to an amendment leaves wording that is exactly the same as the form of the issue when it was decided earlier, that cannot be a basis for prohibiting a senator from offering an amendment. You cannot have...and I don't know where the Chair is getting its advice, but it's wrong. have a set of circumstances where you can divide the question and in that means arrive at what Senator Withem would call reconsideration, but you can't get there by offering a straightforward amendment. Senator Withem would have to admit that that doesn't make sense. We're beginning now to allow our rules to be toyed with, and not by me. I'm trying to show what the effect of the Chair's ruling is. The Chair knows that he can't rule, based on our rules, that a divisible question cannot be divided. But that's what he'd have to rule, if the effect of allowing the division of the question could result in a part of the original amendment being defeated, and what is left is what Senator Withem would call a reconsideration. Senator Withem, help me. I want to ask you a question, if I may.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, sir.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Withem, the issue is divisible and the Chair has agreed. Now, would you object to allowing a division of the question?

SENATOR WITHEM: No.