

sometimes people file a priority motion but do not wish to take it up at that moment. Sometime the reason is because they wish to cooperate, sometime they don't wish to cooperate and want it up now. So ordinarily we attempt to accommodate when somebody files a priority motion...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: So you're saying it was filed now.

PRESIDENT: No, I'm not saying it was filed now. What I am saying is, I'm ruling that it was filed in a proper time, that's all I'm ruling at this time. But...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay, I would simply move to override that decision and I do so simply because even though the Chair, I'm sure is right, I'm sure Pat, in regards to his reasoning, I'm sure Pat O'Donnell is correct when he says that it was on the desk, but for the simple procedure that it was not logged in, we do not have a date on it, we do not officially have any notice that it was there until at this particular time which seems to me...which to me it states that it was officially made now, for whatever reason. So I'll move to override that decision at this point.

PRESIDENT: I understand, Senator Bernard-Stevens, and it may be that your Rules Committee may wish to consider this in the future as to when a priority motion is filed, it should be...or a reconsider motion is filed it be done immediately or at whenever. It doesn't matter to the person presiding, of course, just so the rules are spelled out perhaps a little more carefully than they are at the moment. You've moved to overrule the Chair? Okay. Very good. Yes, that's a debatable motion. Did you wish to speak on it, Senator Bernard-Stevens, further?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I very seldom have gotten involved in rules debates in my time here in the Legislature, but I'm a firm believer that you set rules for a purpose regardless of the issue. You set rules for a purpose. Now this body today, to show our consistency, this same body voted 25-2, voted 25 ayes, 2 nays in an unrecorded vote saying that you could not withdraw a divided question. Now that same body turned around today, that same body turns around today and votes 29-10 because it personally likes a particular issue, totally forgetting or caring about rules, only self-need, only self-wants, only self-desires. And when you get into a legislative system where you have so many conflicting views, rules are very important.