

May 24, 1989

LB 272A

The Chair could not rule until the point was brought to him. Another point I'd like to make is LB 272 has been bracketed until next year. You can't file another bracket motion on a bill that has already been bracketed until it's unbracketed. The proper procedure is to unbracket this bill. If you let Senator Schmit get away with this, and I'm not arguing on the merits of the issue, whether it should be supported or whether it shouldn't, whether he's right or whether he's wrong on the issue. But if you let him carry a yellow sheet of paper up to the Speaker's desk to allow any issue to be brought before the floor immediately for debate at any time a member chooses, you might as well throw out the green sheet and just we'll take turns filing bracket, bracket a bill we want brought up to now and have it brought before the body for consideration. It's...it borders on being ridiculous but it appears as though if Senator Johnson had not filed this motion we might have allowed this to happen. I appreciate the Chair's ruling and I think if you do not overrule the Chair, you're allowing an incredibly dangerous precedent to be established here. We have gone from...at an hour ago I guess it was, talking about veto overrides on LB 814 and there are some senators here who had some real concerns about 814 and we've just allowed by a yellow sheet of paper being filed on the desk, been allowed to move to something entirely different. The Chair really desperately needs to be supported in this ruling.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Langford. Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Shall debate now cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 2 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Schmit, would you like to close?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, it's not unusual, of course, it is now five twenty-one. I would appreciate it, Mr. President, if you would use that gavel once again.

SPEAKER BARRETT: I certainly will. (Gavel.)

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you very much, you're a fine Speaker, though I disagree with him. (laughter) Mr. President and members, it is entirely appropriate, of course, that we spend a grand total of 21 minutes or 24 minutes on this or less. It's