

January 4, 1990

on?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes.

SENATOR ELMER: Okay, that clears that up, so that if that...if the last sections that were being voted on are crucial to the amendment, then after the adoption and you vote on the amendment itself, the body could either accept or reject it.

SENATOR LYNCH: If...someone can correct me if they think I'm wrong, but it's my understanding that since the question was divided, each one of the parts of the divided proposal are acted on independently.

SENATOR ELMER: As independent amendments.

SENATOR LYNCH: Independently, right.

SENATOR ELMER: Okay.

SENATOR LYNCH: Now if...yes.

SENATOR ELMER: So, really, this is only if one of the very first parts are very important to the amendment, then you could remove the rest and sit down?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please, followed by Senator Lynch.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I support Senator Bernard-Stevens' motion and this is why. Once a motion is presented to the Legislature and the introducer has spoken on it and any number of others have spoken on it, before a vote of any kind is taken the introducer can withdraw that amendment, at any time. Once a division of the question has been requested, the division of the question is granted by the Speaker, not the Legislature, so the Speaker dividing the question is not an act of the Legislature, so the Legislature still has not acted. If the question is divided and there has been a 30-hour debate on the first division but no vote is taken, the introducer can still withdraw that whole motion because the Legislature has not done anything as a Legislature to alter it in any way. If the first, second, third or any