

January 4, 1990

PRESIDENT: Senator Moore's. One more.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I will just go ahead and make a final comment then since we do have one more. Members of the body, I think the other thing to keep in mind is that if I have a bill before the body, you know, I cannot necessarily withdraw that without a vote or unanimous consent. If I have an amendment that's been before the body and there has been a change made on the amendment, I cannot withdraw that amendment anymore. I lose the effect of doing that. If I...the only thing we're talking about that's different here is I would offer an amendment or you would offer an amendment and the body is saying we would like to divide that amendment into some portions here that are freestanding, but still it is all a part of the one amendment, and it's the same philosophy being consistent all the way through, and that is once we make a change on one part of it, since it really is still the one amendment, we cannot withdraw it, except we will give the possibility that it could be withdrawn by letting the body vote and say, yes, we will allow them to withdraw. And I think it's a fair way to do it and it would be a way that could be consistent for all members of the body to use to their best tactical advantage, but it would be fair and equal. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Moore, please.

SENATOR MOORE: Senator Bernard-Stevens' new amendment is better than his last one but I...and I encourage the body to adopt either this one or the original amendment five. If you don't do that, you're really going to have a problem. But I prefer the original amendment that came out of the Rules Committee because I...it's a difference of opinion on what you think an amendment is. I think an amendment is the property of the introducer. Under the original committee amendment, the committee proposal, basically, what you're saying is when a question is divided, it's divided into little bits and pieces of amendments. Now if the body, like Senator Chambers says, acts on something and adopts it, it's adopted. And so what's left would be just like remaining amendments on a bill and I think, as with remaining amendments on a bill, you can withdraw them, should be the same under a question that's been divided because with the rule that...if you adopt amendment five, you basically said you divide a question, you divide into three distinct amendments, and I prefer...that's the cleaner way to do it as opposed to