January 4, 1990

subject matter of the original proposal," but rather the one, the language that talks details of the specific subject. Nothing in the way of clarification is achieved by Senator Warner's amendment. If you leave the language to say "or", then you have got to have a logical and natural sequence, a mien, and, as Senator Barrett pointed out and we all agree, people can differ as to what is logical and what is natural. But, at least, we have set up some boundaries within which we can have an intelligent focused discussion.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But when we take out the word "or" and reinstate the word "and", we are requiring two elements to be present, one of which we cannot even divine its nature. We don't know when something is relating only to the details of the specific subject of the bill, but if you want to throw that in to make people feel good, no harm is done if you leave the "or" there and say, but it must be in a natural and logical sequence to the subject matter of the original proposal. If you comply with that part of it, the first aspect makes no difference. If it does not follow in a natural and logical sequence, it has no relationship to the bill, and it is not germane on that basis. But to tie this part that you can understand with a part that is very vague and has no real meaning is to defeat any significant meaning in this germaneness rule in terms of its being a guide for the Chair in making decisions.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Withem, please, followed by Senator Moore.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, and members of the body, Senator Warner said he introduced this to get some discussion going maybe on some of the components of the germaneness rule. Particularly, he made reference to must be in a natural and logical sequence to the subject matter, and what exactly that means. I have absolutely no idea what it means in any absolute sense but I would share with the body what we were told by legislative staff yesterday in the Rules Committee when we were discussing this, and why this language is in here. Evidently, prior to this germaneness rule being drafted and inserted into our rules, about the only standard that existed, and some of us still try to use this standard, and that is, if the bill...if the amendment amends the same section of the statute that is considered in the bill, then the amendment is germane, and that