

you are absolutely right. And I know Senator Labeledz is tired, I am tired, and I know we have a lot of session ahead of us. I know that, but this is a major piece of legislation, my friends, and I am asking you to look at the amendment that I offered, looking at the sections that are easily divisible to make sure that we know what we are doing.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I ask that you not support the division (sic) of the Chair. How about the division...Senator Labeledz's motion. Thank you, Bernice. I ask you not to support that.

PRESIDENT: Yes, Senator Scofield, please, followed by Senator Lindsay and Senator Dierks.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, let's lay aside for us the emotional issue that is before us, because one could easily cast a vote here that has precedent that lasts for years and years and years and I think have a very negative impact on this body. And as tedious as this may appear, and as delighted as everybody in here, I suspect, would be to get this issue behind us, no matter what, whether we do good work or bad work or anything, I really think in the heart of hearts of everybody in here is they would like to just have this issue go away, and that is when I think you make really bad decisions. And as I see the precedent about to be established here is that if we overrule the Chair, we are making a decision that could come back to haunt us on other issues and I think specifically of the budget. And I don't think we want to set a precedent here of where we don't divide the question, no matter how tedious that division may appear to be and, as Senator Lamb points out, he's afraid this is a new filibustering tactic. You know, the great thing about human beings is, Senator Lamb, they just keep thinking up new and creative ways around whatever rules we set and I guess that's just part of the game. But I think we want to be very careful how we move here because to suddenly say that we're not going to divide the question in the future, I think could seriously jeopardize the quality of debate on this floor, the quality of the decision-making on this floor and, obviously, the area that I get most concerned about is appropriations and budgeting because we so frequently, by your request, divide budget issues so that you can go through every one of them item by item. We did it just last year and have