

think he is violating the whole purpose of the division of the question procedure. That procedure is primarily to divide something if there are issues that are separate and independent and should be considered uniquely. But when a...I would ask you to ask yourselves...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: ...when an amendment is introduced and then is divided into 19 separate amendments, what is the real purpose of that division? So my first request would be to have Senator Bernard-Stevens reconsider his division of the question, ask him to withdraw it, ask him to consider this amendment as it has been proposed, and debate it and vote it. And, failing that, if that does not occur, then I would urge the body to, in this particular instance, to vote to overrule the Chair and not to tolerate a manipulation of the rules in this fashion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Moore, please, followed by Senator Nelson and Senator Schmit.

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Mr. President, and members, I've got to spend the first minute talking about it a little, you know, the whole reason why our present form of cloture in this body is so poor and so unfair because that's, you know, if you would have some sort of cloture rule where you could debate it reasonably for a while and then cut off debate, I think the body and the state would be much better served. You know, what's forced Senator Bernard-Stevens to do this is the fact that Senator Labeledz has a rule suspension motion sitting there which I actually plan on supporting because I want to vote on this issue. The fact of the matter is you have such an uncumbersome and unfair form of cloture in this body you ask for abuses like this, and it is an abuse. Senator Bernard-Stevens, we all know that you're crossing a line on what's reasonable but that leaves me in a bad situation because, really, Senator Labeledz, correct me if I'm wrong, you're asking to overrule the Chair on the fact of whether or not you can call for a division. Correct?

SENATOR LABEDZ: Correct.

SENATOR MOORE: And I can't support you on that because I believe that he can. I believe he's being very unreasonable but maybe hindsight is better than foresight; possibly if you read