

asked the Chair again not to allow a senator to divide an amendment, even though it was clearly divisible. The Chair, in my opinion, was on very subjective grounds. And I understand that, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, and I forgive you for that reason. But the Chair, in essence, said, well, I saw what the Legislature did on the last vote, I'll go ahead and rule Senator Labedz's request in order. I'll go ahead and rule, since the body has already voted, and I will rule not to allow a senator to divide the question, even though it's divisible, and I understand that. I don't understand the theory. I, naturally, moved to override that decision, and that is where we are now. Members of the body, there is a reason sometimes that a lot of countries fail in democratic principles. There is a reason that when the United States goes abroad and we say, why can't you be like us, why can't you allow freedom of speech and discussion, what are you afraid of? And one of the reasons that democracies break down abroad and sometimes even here is that when there is a very willful majority and they get mad by a very pesky David, when you have a Goliath that gets upset they have a tendency to forget principles, to forget democratic principles and go with sheer force as Goliath's and leviathans all have a tendency to do when provoked. And what we have is a Goliath, if you wish, a majority, a large majority saying, in essence, we don't like what you did, we don't like the fact that we're going to have to wait and may never get to a vote. We don't like that and so, consequently, we, the majority, are going to suspend and make all rules banning senators' rights, we're going to ban all rules by suspension of the rules further discussions in a democratic society, in essence Machiavelli lived yesterday. As I sensed he is living and lurking in every democratic society just below the surface, the ends will justify the means, we are going to take away democratic rights and principles. And then after we receive, we being the leviathan, the Goliath, after we receive what it is that we want then we will reinstate those principles once again until a time we are again further provoked. That's what happened yesterday. I hope the body understands that I did not lightly take the positions I did yesterday. The analogy that kept going through my mind is a long cattle drive, when the cattle haven't been near water for three weeks, coming through Kansas and up through Nebraska in the 1800's. And all of a sudden they sensed, they smelled water, miles away but they smelled it and they ran, and they ran, and they stampeded. And sometimes people died in the way, sometimes they even stomped each other. And this is what was happening to the body yesterday on an issue that is very, very important to every