

say that I didn't say in the opening. Rights in any democratic society are always easy to keep during good times. I always want to listen to my neighbor have a complaint, if I know it really doesn't affect me, personally. Where democracy tends to break down is when the majority knows that by a larger majority they can change the rules at any time, and I understand that. There are times the majority has to move on. But in going back to the Constitution of the United States the last couple of evenings and reading or at least perusing through the Federalist Papers again, there is one thing that time and time again caught my fancy, as it has caught the fancy when I taught your grandchildren and children about their rights. And that is, members of the body, in many cases the forefathers were not telling us that the majority must always rule, because quite obviously when they broke away from Britain that was the problem, the majority of Britains in Parliament were always ruling. The minority was never listened to, and Parliament could say, hey, if you've got the votes you win, that's democracy. And that wasn't representation. They talked about taxation without representation. The minority was not being heard because the issue got big, we're talking money to the British crown and property and egos. And the British crown said this is the law. And we broke away from that, we fought bitterly and people died for our country. And the principle that comes clear in the Constitution to me and the Federalist Papers is the principle of, yes, the majority does win, but we must have protections so that the minority can maybe stop, at times, the majority from dominating, because God knows that's what we fought the Declara...that's what we fought our revolution, to stop the majority from dominating our souls.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: That may be a little dramatic, but it just takes a little bit and piece of a right at any one time to be taken away and we justify that, we justify it. But in essence this particular vote is saying the following, we have the rule in there for all senators, whether they're in majority or the minority. And the rule is that they have the power to divide. No one has on the floor questioned whether the division that I ask for was improper. No one has stated it as an improper way of dividing the question. All they have said is they don't like it. And you start taking that right away, regardless of your reasons, regardless of the issues, and, my friends, I will be the first one to point my finger and say, you