

2 parts or 3 parts or 4 separate parts, I notice there are 4 sections in this bill, he divided it into I think 18 or 19 separate questions. We have rules here to accomplish certain goals, the goals being that all matters are debated and discussed and that we have a reasonable debate on them. And then as a legislative body we have a democratic system and a republican form of government, the majority rules on the vote. I have never voted for the cloture motion, although I can see how a lot of people would be interested in having a cloture rule. The reason that I have never voted for it is because I don't want to see debate necessarily stifled and that no one gets to speak on a particular issue. I also vote against the cloture rule for the reason that I believe that there is an inherent kind of understanding and trust among senators that they will not abuse the system. That even Senator Chambers, when he...in 775, and I opposed 775, that he could have continued the debate on and on, but at a point after he had said more than what he needed to say probably, but at a point he said I'm not going to offer any more amendments. He and Senator Johnson met, as I recall,...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: ...and the vote was voted upon. Rules can be manipulated. Rules can be subverted and they can destroy the policies that the rules are trying to implement. I submit to you that this rule manipulation by Senator Bernard-Stevens is merely that, a manipulation of the rules. It is not to accomplish any significant purpose other than delay a vote on the issue. This issue has been discussed. It was discussed thoroughly last year. It has been discussed thoroughly this year. I don't want to limit discussion that there are genuine issues. But when someone acts in this manner and submits an amendment no one has ever seen before, although it has been printed what 10 days ago, when they divide it into 19 separate questions, and now I understand that Senator Bernard-Stevens has just filed 25 additional amendments to this bill, I think that is abusing the rules and I don't think it should be tolerated.

PRESIDENT: Time. Thank you. I'd like to break into this discussion before Senator Hefner speaks, just for a moment. As we all know, February 22nd was the birthday of a famous man. But February 23rd is also the birthday of a famous man...oh, I'm a month off? Well, the Clerk corrects me. So we'll not recognize him. Senator Haberman's birthday was the 23rd of