

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...and sometimes you have no choice because you're cornered and you've got to fight and you use whatever is available and that's what I have here today and I hope the body understands that and hopefully respects that.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Labeledz, please, followed by Senator Lindsay. Senator Labeledz, you're the next speaker. You...the question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do and the question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased. Now Senator Chambers will close on his motion to overrule the Chair, not to cease debate on overruling the Chair. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I made this motion because I genuinely felt that we had not had enough discussion of the other issue that was before us. We're talking about serious matters and all some people want to do is terminate debate. But if a senator is bound and determined to speak, there is no way that you can stop that from occurring. There will be an attempt to choke off discussion, then a motion such as the kind that I have made will be offered. The discussion of that motion may take longer than would have been the case had people who were with their lights on, on the original question, allowed to speak. This is like what they referred to in the army as hurry up and wait. There are some people who want to ram things down the throat of us who disagree with this bill and they are just not going to be able to do that. When Senator Landis began to talk about some of the issues that have developed as a result of the existing law in Minnesota, he's correct, those are the things we should discuss, but those who favor this bill are determined that those are not the kinds of things that will be discussed. They are going to try to show that they can force us who oppose the bill to just swallow it and let them ram it through. But as long as there are any rules in place, I'm going to find a way to have something to say on this bill and on the processes and the abuse of the process that I see occurring now. I still believe that the very important question for us to decide today is whether or not we're going to comply with the rule as written which says that a member may seek a division of the question and when that