

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I'm sorry, okay.

CLERK: You're absolutely correct, it's filed, but it's...

PRESIDENT: The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to cease debate.

PRESIDENT: Debate ceased. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you may close on your motion to reconsider.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Mr. President, again, I will talk a little bit about the bill I think, but mostly again to emphasize that Senator Smith did very well, Senator Warner did well and irregardless of their feelings on the bill, are basically centered around the idea that senators do have rights and there is a reason for those rights. Much has been said about amendments to the amendments being offered and delaying tactics and what have you. I'd like to point out if I can to the body, it's very difficult to keep in mind the sequences at times, but the question is at some point, is the Bernard-Stevens amendment that we're even talking about a worthwhile amendment? I think members of the body will find that it is. I don't know if it will have the majority support, but I think you'll find that it's worthwhile. I think you'll find the discussion good, but I also think that you'll find sitting behind my amendment is an amendment to the amendment by David Landis, Senator Landis. And I think if you check the Clerk's office you will find a motion filed yesterday, if I remember correctly, by Senator Labeledz that would effectively, no matter what the nature of my amendment, that would basically suspend the rules so that no amendments could be offered to the amendment. Then you'll find that I filed 25 amendments to the amendments. We'll never get to my amendments to the amendments, but I would certainly tell those senators that if we would have, there were six that I think were really legitimate to the bill, to my amendment, and the rest would have been withdrawn. I was merely making a point that the next time if you keep a senator from dividing the question, they won't ask. They'll simply offer amendments that will do the same. Each of those amendments, for the most part, struck one of the sections that we would have talked about individually if the question would have been divided. And so the point was or