

person were called upon in a more tension and pressure-packed situation that we have in this Legislature, how can you be sure, as voters, that such a person would have the strength to do that which is right rather than to do that which is expedient, knowing that it's wrong? And this is not a matter of opinion that we're talking about. We're talking about a positive rule. When people aspire to bigger and better things in higher offices, the public has a right to scrutinize what such individuals do when they occupy elective office and have responsibilities in that office. And if they are not strong enough to discharge those duties, they should not run for the office in the first place, or they should give it up. And I, as a member of this Legislature, am not friends with anybody in here. I owe nobody anything. And to get along with somebody in this Legislature I'm going to ignore what to me is a craven decision that disregards the rules that he voted for, voted to adopt. And people sit in here like knots on logs, pretending not to understand what is being done here. But we all know, and I want it in the record, and I want it in the record so that others can read what we did and what was discussed while it was being done. Sometimes little ghosts come back as gigantic apparitions to haunt those who fail to do as they should do. I'm not going to release this issue, I'm going to hold on with bulldog like tenacity and discharge my responsibilities even though others will not. What kind of man would I be, what kind of representative would I be if I'm going to stand up here and say that others have an obligation to enforce rules that are here, if I'm going to back away from my principles on an issue because other people are offended or angry, or make threats about what they're going to do with reference to my legislation. This Legislature is not my life or my wife.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The bills that I offer do not, for me, represent the rising and setting of the sun of my destiny. I'll be back and I'll try it again. And we all know that revenge, vengeance, reprisal can be sought against any member who falls into disfavor. I know that, but I'm not a man moved by fear. I'm not a man who will be intimidated. So since the Chair has chosen to go along with what the Legislature, in a craven and blatantly political vote decided to do yesterday, I must use every means available to me within the rules to try to overcome this action outside the rules of the Chair...