

for a long, long, long time. And, Senator Chambers, I think one thing that's been very helpful to me to reexperience again, because I don't experience it very often, and members of the body I suspect have not experienced it very often as well, and that is to reexperience again what it feels like to be in the minority. I have experienced many times what it is like to be in the majority, living in Nebraska and the Midwest. I've experienced many times the frustration sometimes of not being able to do what the majority that I was a part of wanted to do because of an adamant minority. That happens a lot in this country. But to be on the other side and to reexperience how desperately difficult and challenging it is to be on the minority, fighting the majority that not only wants to do something, but wants to do it regardless of principle, that's where I draw the line and I leave the majority and I say, you're wrong. What we are basically fight...what I have basically been fighting that has brought this to a logjam, and I agree with Senator Schimek, that the heels are dug in and we are not going to move. And by the way, keep remember...remember, members of the body, even if by some miracle, and miracles do happen, the bill moves, this is simply General File. You have Select File and Final Reading and it's our call how far we're going to go, not your call, our call. Senator Chambers said it correctly I think when one side says, well, you guys give up, you're delaying the Legislature, it's your fault. And of course, the other side can say wait a minute, if you guys give up, we won't delay anymore, it's your fault. And as long as we keep that attitude nothing will be done and it's...and the Legislature should at some point say, I think we have a responsibility to our people and I think we need to move on. And by the way, it happens a lot at national levels. The responsible decision sometimes is to step back, reevaluate and come back again at a later time. And what I think I would like the body to at least try to keep in mind, or...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...at least for the record to keep in mind, is that one principle that I have been fighting all along is the principle of the majority saying, we will not allow amendments no matter how reasonable and good to be attached on a bill because we want this bill to be just word for word, if not in totally, just 99.9 percent of the way exactly like Minnesota's. Don't confuse me with better amendments, don't confuse me with a better way to treat our children in Nebraska,