

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Mr. President, would you do me a great favor right now and let me know what it is I am closing on?

PRESIDENT: You are debating about overruling the Chair.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: In regard to...

PRESIDENT: In regard to ceasing debate, and I would raise the call, please.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you. I ran into a quote this morning I thought was kind of interesting. It is from 1929 and the source was anonymous, and it said, "See the happy moron. He doesn't give a damn. I wish I were a moron. My God, perhaps I am." Somehow I thought that might be apropos to sometimes the way that I feel on these issues. A couple of things I would like to comment simply on the issue and on things in general, and in talking to some people, and one of the things that happens is that on particular issues, particularly something that is emotional as what we have...that we have here, not only in this body, but on these issues throughout the entire country of the United States, is that we look at the clouds and the clouds boil and they form terrible storms, and they get so dark that sometimes we forget what was at the center of that storm, and we lose sight of what actually brought the storm in the first place. And the one thing that I think...I keep wanting to harp at because I don't want people to forget where the storm began, and I am not trying to do anything but at least try to keep the record straight so that we don't have too many revisionist ideas in the future on this particular issue and what happened, is that is when I came to the Legislature this year, I assumed as everyone else did, I think all of us talked in the district that, well, I don't know how much we will get done this session because we have got taxes and abortion and that could tie up, you know, the entire session. I think we all knew that. I think we all knew that that could happen. But certainly it is one thing to talk about it, and it is another thing to have it happen. But when I came, I assumed that in my mind anyway that what would probably happen was that we would spend three, four, or five days on the issue, and as soon as it was determined that the opposition to 769, some totally against, some liking, as myself, to try to make some changes, as soon as they had been given an adequate chance, they had voted on amendments, they had been able to offer a few amendments, and it