

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator McFarland, please, followed by Senator Schmit.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: I'd call the question, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I wasn't here to hear the discussion, but I'll put it to the group, and I did see five hands.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is that your ruling, because our rules say that the Chair rules as to whether there has been enough debate so is that your ruling that there has been sufficient debate?

PRESIDENT: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I challenge that ruling.

PRESIDENT: The Chair has been challenged. You get to open, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Senator Abboud, you're right on the money just as was Senator Lindsay. A lot of time has been taken. People don't want to take a lot of time, but since this issue has been placed before us again, it's going to take a lot of time. There are no two ways about it. Those who want this amendment are not going to yield an inch. I who am opposed to it am not going to yield a centimeter. So we're going to have to discuss it one way or the other. There is nothing inappropriate, and I have always taken this position, in the attempts by Senator Labeledz and her supporters to use the rules to try to have their will done by amending this bill in any way that they can get enough votes to do. And by the same token, there is nothing inappropriate with me using the rules any way that I can to prevent it, and that's what I intend to do. So when the question is called after there has been a minimal amount of debate, I'll have to get a ruling from the Chair on it. In some instances it might be wiser to let the discussion occur until those who intend to speak on it have spoken because after we get the ruling from the Chair and a challenge is made and the Speaker is upheld, I'll be not voting. Then I'll move to reconsider the vote to uphold the Chair and it will take longer to do that than to allow each motion to be debated. But a majority of the body can choose to deal with it any way it pleases because I know what my course must be and I intend to stay on that course unswervingly. And there is a