

January 14, 1991

SENATOR WARNER: Thirty seconds to go, Senator Moore. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Moore, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, I would.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Scott, I'm just sitting back here thinking in my mind, I don't particularly have any problem with the amendment that's...or amendment three with or without the amendment I offered earlier. You know, once you set the ground rules, we'll play with the ground rules, whatever they may be. A couple hypothetical cases, however. Let's say that a senator had a particular thing that they wanted in the appropriations process. Your committee sits hours, literally hours, agonizing hours listening to all of the monotonous number, and details, and analysis, and what have you and make painful decisions, finally, with all of the information. And the thing that I wanted, for example, was not put in there. I'm thinking more of last year when I was not on the Appropriations Committee. What would happen, what would happen before is that I would have to offer an amendment and it would be put on the Clerk's desk, it would then be put in a rank as far as when it was offered, as far as when it would be brought up, and I would take my chances on the floor and plead my case to the floor. And if money had run out by that time, and if I was first, if I was first and I was able to sway the body, boom, it was agreed to. And then as other amendments were agreed to, because the body is in a great mood, then we start really getting overspent and the train stops. Those amendments underneath probably won't pass. All right. All I need to do now, and I just want to make sure I'm correct, Scott. All I need to do now is find, no matter what the issue is, no matter what the topic, if it has to do with appropriations, I just need to find any committee that has five people that will agree that this should be done. They can offer it as a Standing Committee amendment to the appropriation, and it gets immediate priority. Is that correct?

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, it would have priority over individual senator's amendments on the floor.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: All right, so...

SENATOR MOORE: It also needs to be mentioned that as far as the