

January 14, 1991

advancement of the bill shall be taken, without debate, immediately following the vote on cloture." However, "A motion for cloture shall have precedence over other motions except a motion to adjourn. An unsuccessful motion for cloture shall result in the debate on the bill ending for the day. When the speaker chooses to resume debate on the bill, successive motions for cloture shall not be in order until two additional hours of debate on the bill has occurred." Be glad to try to answer any questions, and I'm sure there will be some, on this simple cloture rules change recommendation.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Wesely, Crosby, Moore, and Beutler. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I want to ask a couple of questions of Senator Lynch so that I can get clear on what it is we're talking about.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Lynch, do you yield?

SENATOR LYNCH: I do, Mr. President.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Lynch, we have a bill before us, somebody has offered an amendment, and there has been eight hours of debate at that point, and the introducer wants to move for cloture. While that amendment is being considered, there is no need, any longer, to move to cease debate on that amendment. The introducer of the bill simply moves for cloture, and that achieves the result of ceasing debate on the pending amendment, isn't that correct based on the way this rule is drafted?

SENATOR LYNCH: If...to answer your question yes or no would not be possible because the possibility exists that the motion...the amendment could be a serious amendment and necessary for the bill.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But here's the point, I'm saying the way the bill is...the way your amendment is written, as soon as that cloture motion is made debate ceases immediately...

SENATOR LYNCH: Um-huh.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...on the pending amendment. Isn't that correct?