

January 14, 1991

there strictly to stall the process are going to be after that, it's as simple as that. So any legitimate idea you're going to get in the first eight hours. For whatever reason in eight hours you couldn't do it, I think the mere fact that you do require a 33 vote majority to get this across, I mean, if it was legitimate out there, if it's not been discussed, if there is a legitimate idea that has not been discussed, you know, hopefully you can get at least a small member...number of the body to do it. You know, if you can't get 16 members to agree with you, then you probably don't have a point anyway. You know, the fact is should it be difficult, should it require 33 votes? I think it should be, because I have always said I do not want to stifle the minority. And I think our present rule suspension method of cloture, which we really have cloture anyway. I mean if you can get a rule suspension, until Senator Bernard-Stevens and Senator Landis found a way to foil that, and I compliment them for doing so, we always had cloture here, but by a different name, it was by rule suspension. In that case you truly could stifle the majority, and I think that 's wrong. This particular cloture motion allows eight hours, it requires 33 votes, it's quite difficult to get. It may not happen every year, quite honestly, you know. In many ways, you know, 775 is probably the last example I remember when it truly, I'm sure, would have worked. You know, in last year's case, Senator (inaudible)...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute, Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: ...would not have probably had the 33 votes to do it. And, so it may apply to that issue. I simply feel that the citizens of the State of Nebraska deserve their laws to be processed in an orderly fashion. And I happen to think it is wrong, at least in my opinion, when a very, very small minority, two or three people, can hold this body up and keep things from happening. We've debated this year in and year out, the idea of cloture, we've come close. I hope, for a variety of reasons, this is the year we finally bite the bullet and say, no, we won't allow unlimited debate, yes, people of Nebraska, we're going to have some orderly rules to give us an orderly process to debate the laws of this state.

PRESIDENT MOUL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator. Next will be Senator Beutler, then Senator Chambers, Senator Hefner, Senator Ashford. Senator Beutler.