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enough protection. But, ladies and gentlemen, I feel that it is not proper, it is not fair for us to allow one or two or three senators to tie up this body day after day on a particular issue. Therefore, I would encourage you to vote for the cloture rule and at least try it for one or two years. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. The next senator to speak on this issue is Senator Ashford, followed by Senators Pirsch, Withem, Wesely, and then Beutler. Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Madam President. I rise in vehement opposition to this proposal. I can't imagine any proposal that is more adverse to our interests as legislators than this one. I would rather spend all session on one issue than to give into a proposal which could limit wholesome debate on issues. And I am reminded, and even if we did spend all session on an important issue, I would say we would be doing our job much better than simply to cut off debate with some sort of artificial determination as to when debate should or should not be cut off. I guess I am reminded, I was thinking here of examples to best illustrate what I am talking about, and I think as we listen to the debate, we are really, and Senator Wesely brought this up to me and I think he is absolutely right, is we are dealing on two levels in this debate. Those people who talk in terms of eight hours or sixteen hours or four hours are talking about practical matters, practical considerations. How long is too long? How far is too far? Those are determinations which each one of us, I am sure, have different opinions on. But that isn't the issue. The issue of whether it is sixteen hours or twenty-four hours is not the issue. The issue is why are we here. We are not here to perform ministerial duties. That is not our function. That is the function of the executive branch, for the most part, of government, but not the legislative branch. And so I was trying to think of an example in my experience and the best one I could come up with, and the other lawyers in the body could probably correct me on this case, but Meyer vs. State of Nebraska, which was a United States Supreme Court case that arose during World War I, and in that particular case, the...and I don't have it in front of me because I just thought about it, but in that situation, the Legislature of the State of Nebraska determined that German could not be spoken or taught in schools. And that was because, obviously, we were engaged in a war with Germany in World War I and we determined, as a body, that German was inappropriate, for whatever reason to speak German, and it could not be spoken, and