

January 14, 1991

the south balcony at eleven o'clock; Government Committee, south balcony, eleven o'clock. Urban Affairs Committee, south balcony at eleven o'clock, and Business and Labor Committee underneath the north balcony at eleven-fifteen. Madam President, I do have a motion on the desk. Senator Chambers would move to amend committee amendment number four by striking "eight" and inserting "twelve" found in line 6.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam Chair and members of the Legislature, in the past when there was what I considered to be a defectively drawn proposal before us, I would try to make substantive changes in it by way of the amending process but that is not what I am doing here. I am not going to try to make a substantive change in this proposed rule amendment. But I will tell you this, and Senator Ashford got into it sooner than I had intended to do, but America is on the verge of going to war. There is going to be hysteria. There is going to be an outbreak of racism as far as overt action because the groups have begun to make their intentions clear already. So there is going to be domestic or internal fighting in this country along with what is happening in the Middle East. We are going to have some of those issues brought to us in the form of resolutions, perhaps in the form of bills. And because this Legislature, as a whole, has a tendency to go along with whatever the national administration wants to do, there will be a desire to avoid what they consider to be embarrassment by cutting off such discussion. But for a person such as myself, who sees one-third of the forces in the Middle East that this government has sent there being composed of people such as myself, one-third of the people making up the American forces are minorities, and yet this racist country presided over by a President like Bush will not even allow civil rights legislation, which gives us a job, a racist country presided over by a racist like Bush, whose top man in the Education Department in that area will say that scholarships designed to bring some modicum of equity to those groups, who have been discriminated against, are violative of the law. How do you think we feel? Very bitter. Very set upon. There will be people on the floor of this Legislature who'll speak against what they call quotas, but when do they speak against quotas when it comes to a job or an educational opportunity. If it comes to an overabundance of us in a combat unit, there is no concern about an overrepresentation of us. These kinds of things are to be discussed by legislative