

January 14, 1991

SENATOR LYNCH: Six...no, 25.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It takes 30. okay.

SENATOR LYNCH: You have got it

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, thank you. Now look at this, I have got 32 votes for cloture. I tried for cloture and I get 32 votes and I can't get it. So then I move to suspend the rules and it takes 30. I can suspend the cloture rule. Then I can offer a motion, even without suspending the cloture rule, to suspend these rules that allow debate and so forth and arrive at cloture just through a motion to suspend the rules, which takes only 30 votes. You are adding another overlay. The main difference is that the cloture motion, based on what they are doing here, gets priority. So the one who wants cloture can test the water by simply offering a motion for cloture. The first thing that does is cuts off all debate on the amendment that is being discussed, which may be the desire anyway. There will be no more discussion of that pending amendment. Then a vote is automatically taken on cloture. You get 32 votes. There is to be no more debate that day, but then, as I just pointed out, you make a motion to suspend the rules and you get past all of it. Made a mockery of the whole thing, and those who say that it's so necessary to have a cloture rule because it takes 33 votes will see that that is not what it takes to cease debate at all anyway. Senator Pirsch insulted everybody on the floor of the Legislature because she judged our amendments by her own. She said the majority of amendments offered are not designed to improve a bill. She said most of them offered are not designed to improve a bill. We have to make sure we see things as those things are and not as we, ourselves, are. Maybe she engages in frivolous debate. Maybe her amendments are worthless. Then let her characterize her own because everybody knows himself or herself better than others. But I defy anybody to demonstrate from the record of amendments that have been offered, even those with which I disagree, that the majority are not designed to improve a situation. This is much to do about nothing, much ado about nothing. If I have something to say, I am going to find a way to say it. The bills that will be greased by the special interest groups at some point are going to pass this Legislature. Spines will be converted to Jello. Ankles will be converted to roller skates so that they can swivel and go any direction that the special interests dictate, and a lot of the new senators who've come here with grandiose