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assembly or the right to free debate or the right to speak as many times as you want on any subject that you want. What we are curtailing today, in a modest sort of way, is the right to nonsense and the right to obstruction. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. We will now have Senator Hefner, followed by Senator Ashford, Senator Bernard-Stevens, and Senator Pirsch. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the body, I will keep my remarks brief because I have talked on this issue once before but other states have adopted some cloture rules and it seems to be working pretty good for them. And with our limited time in the Nebraska Legislature, I think we should have some type of cloture rule. I am not saying that this is 100 percent correct, but let's give it a try for one year or, perhaps, two years and see how it is working. And if it isn't working, well, we can come back and change it. We can change our rules at the beginning of each legislative session as we see fit. But I believe it is unfair, I believe it is unfair to this body to have one or two or three senators tie up this body for days at end. At least if we'd adopt this permanent rule, it would be an opportunity to debate an issue eight hours at any particular stage of debate. Since we have three stages of debate, well, that would be at least 24 hours. Also on Final Reading, you'd still have an opportunity to bring that particular bill back and add an amendment if you see fit. So I think it is only fair and just that we try a cloture rule. I think this one is fair. Also it was mentioned that we wouldn't have much protection on this. Well, ladies and gentlemen, it will take 33 votes or two-thirds of the body to adopt this cloture rule. So I think there is plenty of protection there. Also time and time again in committee hearings, we tell the people who come before us to testify to keep their testimony brief, to not be repetitious. But still when that particular bill gets to the floor, we feel that us senators can debate an issue day after day, and I don't think this is fair. And so I would encourage you to vote for this permanent rule, amendment number four, and go on from there. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Now Senator Ashford, followed by Senator Bernard-Stevens, Senator Pirsch, Senator Moore. Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Madam President. I would just like