

entity than it may have been when this session started. We have done a lot of things that I normally wouldn't see us doing. So then, I guess, what the point of the Beutler motion is, we have gone so far in perverting our rules there really are no lines anymore and so let's just do whatever a majority of people in here can vote to do and be done with it. If the Chair wants to rule that a motion to adjourn is in order at any time, let's override the Chair and say it wasn't in order. Or if the Chair wants to say that the speaking order is the next four senators and we haven't...want to speak early, let's file a motion to override the Speaker and allow...allow us to come up. As a matter of fact, I suggested to the Speaker the other day that maybe what he ought to do is put out a blank agenda and just say whoever can run to the Speaker's podium the first to have their bill brought up gets to bring it up, and that might have been a way around this. I'm being, obviously, somewhat facetious but I would say one place where we ought to continue to draw the line is the English language and the clear meaning of the English language. Admittedly, germaneness is in the eye of the beholder. And if you like something, you're more likely to think it's germane than if you don't like something, and there's room for interpretation. Open your rule books to page 52, Rule 7, Section 3, paragraph (e), it says, "Any member may call for the division of a question." That means any member. Last time I noticed Senator Conway was any member of the body. He may be more than any member than anybody else in here. He may call for a division of a question, which shall be divided. Doesn't say it may be divided or if the Chair wants to divide it or Senator Beutler wants to divide it or if the introducer wants to divide it. It says it shall be divided if it comprehends propositions in substance so distinct that, one being taken away, a substantive proposition shall remain for the decision of the Legislature. As I understand, there are separate...several separate spending decisions in this bill. Senator Conway is asking that they be dealt with independently so we have an opportunity to vote for one, if we like it, not for another one, give the Legislature an opportunity to divide the question, act on any matter that is...that is before us. It's so clear, the language is clear. What Senator Beutler is asking you to do is take the rule book and ignore it. Take the rule book because this measure is so important it needs to be thrown out the window, that we can ignore the clear language and there's absolutely...and this is not a question. It's not a question of whether you can germane...can divide it or whether you cannot.