

January 11, 1995

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...debate would immediately stop at the end of the senator, obviously, who is speaking, that senator finishes, debate stops immediately and then there will be without debate an immediate vote on cloture. If, in fact, cloture then is approved, we go through the process that we have now before us or that others may amend that process. If it's not approved we simply continue where we left off which makes infinitely more sense in the process as we go and I think you'd eliminate problems we're going to have in the future on the cloture rule. I'd urge the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I have opposed cloture and every other attempt to limit debate ever since I've been in the Legislature. Senator Bromm and others who in good faith believe in cloture and restricting debate will look at it from only one point of view, his argument in opposition to this proposed rules change, not Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment which I am going to touch on, is that somebody's...these rules ought to be called the Ernie Chambers rules, these amendments. You ought to just be honest and call it like it is. My good friend Senator Jensen used my name when he was campaigning against Senator Rasmussen and instead of just mentioning issues, he's not the only one, my good friend who he will be my good friend, Senator Brashear did the same thing. Ernie Chambers' death penalty bill, not the death penalty, Ernie Chambers to get my name out there in front of the people. There was a gentleman named Urich (phonetic) running for the Attorney General, I meant the Secretary of State's Office, he brought my name up to hit Senator Moore with. Senator Brown, her opponent put my picture right next to hers on a handout and said we're just alike, just the same. So my name is used in that way and it's an appeal to racism in this state because the ones who do it in that fashion know it's like waving a red flag in front of a bull and if you can use Ernie Chambers which brings out that racist reaction and then hook the person you're opposed to to that name, then you should win. Senator Will saw it happen in his campaign. So did Senator Withem. And right on to...even Senator McKenzie. It happened in her district too. So I believe in being realistic and calling things the way they are and all this pretense that there is fairness, above board activity and so forth means nothing to me. The rest of you can