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ruling if it's divided, whereas if the rule currently exists that committee amendments are always germane to the bill then there, on its face, lies the conflict. I mean, we don't treat all committees the same, Senator Chambers. As you all know, the bills that come out of Appropriations come out in toto. They don't come out with committee amendments, they come out intact. They don't have to go through the amendment process that other bills do. So to say that we would now somehow give a special designation to committee amendments other than what we do presently would not be true. Maybe they ought to be subject to more scrutiny, I would argue and agree with you there, but I don't believe that this amendment saying that you, on one hand, can divide the question and then subject each of those portions to germaneness rulings is a good proposal. I believe that the proposal, as it was originally brought in again by Senator Will is the way that the body ought to clarify this issue and I would urge the body to first reject Senator Withem's amendment and then move to adopt the amendment as offered by Senator Will. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the Legislature, I, too, rise with...in opposition to the Withem amendment to the original rule change proposal. As Senator Chambers and Senator Hall have discussed, I think there are times in which some flexibility is in order and if you can put together a package in an amendment that is overall germane to the bill, the particular components of it if divided and then discussed in terms of germaneness, instead of speeding up the process, in my view, will slow it down. So I think this proposal, in its essence, was an attempt to speed up consideration of issues and not get sidetracked onto germaneness issues and divide those germaneness issues instead of having it discussed once but several times. So, in my view, down the road we'll end up perhaps spending more time discussing germaneness and less time discussing the issues if we adopt the Withem amendment. Although I understand his concerns, I, too, would oppose it and ask you to support the original rule change.

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

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, and