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currently the rule is ambiguous. Currently, if nothing happens, any member can raise questions of germaneness any time any member wants. If the rule had been adopted in its original form, any member could raise questions of germaneness any time that any member wanted to. If this is adopted, any member can raise questions of germaneness any time that any member wants to. It does not open new opportunities. It does not close opportunities. All it does is give guidance to the Chair as to how the membership would like the Chair to rule. Currently, as Senator Hall has accurately pointed out, if we reject amendment 13, then the situation remains ambiguous, and one day when Lieutenant Governor, Lieutenant Governor Robak is in the Chair, there may be one ruling. Another day when Senator Hall is in the Chair, there may be a different ruling. When I'm in the Chair, there may be yet a different interpretation, although it is hard to think of a third way, it is either germane or it isn't, but there may be a different way of applying the question regardless of who is in the Chair. What the rule change does, and I would have been perfectly willing to have supported the original version had that been the will of the body. It is apparent now that by a fairly close vote the will of the body is to move in the other direction. I think it is important that we go ahead and solidify this ruling into...or this interpretation into the rules so that at least members will know what the rules do say and the Chair will know what the rules say and there will be more guidance from the individual in the Chair when these sort of matters do come up. If I've found one frustration with the germaneness rule since I have been in the body, it is that it is open to wide ranges of interpretation, and it does vary from not just who is in the Chair but what who is in the Chair had for breakfast that morning, it's almost that flexible a situation. What this will do now is it will add some great degree of consistency as to the way in which our germaneness rule is interpreted, and I think that is a plus and I would urge you to vote in favor of the rule change as it now stands.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. The Chair recognizes Senator Bernard-Stevens. You've decided not to speak. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I would like to address a couple of points that Senator Withem made, and then maybe refer to something Senator Hall stated. Senator Withem correctly pointed out that if you have person A in the Chair, you may get one ruling on germaneness; person B,