

the first thing I want to say is I'm insulted by anybody who'd say that what I've been doing is filibustering. I know how to filibuster. If I chose...who has heard one motion to reconsider the whole time we've been talking? Not one. I've probably as an individual had more amendments adopted to the bill than any other person in here and I did like I told Senator Withem I'd do. I've discussed with him any amendment that I had. Then people who were not even on the floor are going to come up here and say this is a filibuster and I'm upset with this; then, well, be upset. I'm often upset but you never see me run home, do you? You never see me withdraw and retire and become intimidated and not say what I've got to say. Peer pressure means nothing to me. I won't work for you all and a mere man who fills shoe leather like I do is going to say you conduct your business the way I do or I'll run an amendment or a motion that will stop you from talking. Well, you win today because you've got the votes but we have a long session, a long session and you all have a way of regretting what you do and say because you don't think it through before you do it. You act on impulse, and then when your better mind takes over, you rethink it and say I wish I hadn't said it, I wish I hadn't done it, but it's too late. There are some cuts you can make that are not going to heal quickly. You chose to treat the beginning of the session like we do the end of it when people have a whole interim to recover. If that's wisdom, we have different ways of defining words, but I'll be here till the morning comes if necessary and I'll fight every issue, and in the interest of trying to get things that I want done through this Legislature, I'm not going to yield to anything or back off of anything. In the same way I've outlived a lot of people who were down here when I first came, I'll outlive a lot of you and I'll be in this Legislature longer than you all and I'll bring my issues back again and again and again. And if you insist on cutting off debate, then you're going to have to move a lot of times to suspend a lot of rules on a lot of bills and you're all going to get very, very angry before the session is over and I'll outlast you on that too because I don't care what you think and how you feel about me when I'm doing what I think is necessary for me to do. You all didn't send me down here and I wasn't sent down here to please you all. Obviously, you all were not sent down here to please me, because if you were sent down here to please me, this kind of motion would never be made. So you feel free to do what you want to do. That's what we all should do and that's the way we all should feel and I'll carry through on mine. If I had said I was going to filibuster, well, I don't