

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Would you like me to just give the brief refresher of what the amendment is?

SPEAKER WITHEM: You may do that or, yes, why don't you just give a very brief refresher.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Just a very brief refresher, the ceiling set for the loans is 500,000 per application. This would change it to 250,000.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. The matter before the body then is the Bernard-Stevens amendment. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you are recognized to speak for your amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and, quite honestly, I had forgotten if I'd even had a chance to speak on the amendment last time or whether this would be the second or third time I've spoken on this particular amendment, if I could be updated.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bernard-Stevens, I hate to make this admission to the body...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I understand, you don't have to say it.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...but the rule does indicate, I think, you're limited to three times per day on any matter so the times do not carry over.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: So if I only spoke once, I don't get an additional two so it would be five, is that correct?

SPEAKER WITHEM: It means you're authorized to speak at this point.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Withem. And I plan on voting aye on this amendment as the Mr. Speaker tried to get us to do this morning. Members of the body, what this amendment does, and I told Senator Engel this last time, that I am not going to offer amendments, nor have I offered amendments that would simply be dilatory or insignificant. The amendments that I'm offering, and there aren't that many, and those I've offered previously have for the most part been agreed to in the past,