

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, this issue brought me up here, and I think the Chair is absolutely right. I'm pleased that Senator Beutler and I are on the same side of an issue in terms of an expansive ruling or interpretation of our germaneness rule. I've made it crystal clear, ever since I've been in the Legislature, that the only limit I think ought to be placed on germaneness is the one placed by the constitution that we cannot have two separate subjects in a bill. But I notice that people who get upset with me for using the rules, which I vote against, will use the rules as a tactic when it's to their benefit. Everybody does it at some point, but I do it more so it's an evil thing when I do it. But when they decide to do it, it's okay, and I don't object to it, I'm just glad to hear echoes of myself in the comments of my colleagues. What we have here is a specific issue versus a process. I don't even know what the amendments are. I don't know what the bills are, and I probably don't like some of them, because I heard something about hunters in it and I'm opposed to hunting. But the issues that are involved are of no consequence to me. I have not challenged germaneness except when Senator Warner had a motion...there was a motion and Senator Warner was going to add a substantive issue to that. The motion was to bracket and I felt that that should only be taken as a motion to bracket and a substantial item like Senator Warner was going to offer should not be added, so I challenged the germaneness of what he was doing on a motion. But when it comes to a bill I feel entirely differently. I'm going to vote to sustain the Chair. But if you all vote to overrule, you all play into my hands, and I don't want Senator Schrock writing in his little newspaper that I'm wasting time, because he is helping me. I'm going to challenge every provision of every committee amendment, and I'm entitled to do that. And even if the Chair rules that they're germane, I'm going to move to overrule the Chair, and we're going to spend some time the rest of this session. I'm telling you in advance. I hope you overrule the Chair, but I'm not going to help you do it because it would be irresponsible. But if you do it, I'm going to take advantage of what it is you do and I'm going to use it as a tactic, as you all are using it as a tactic now. And I'm not condemning you. I'm saying that I'm going to embrace what you do and teach you the consequences of what you have done. So overrule the Chair. And,