

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...when I'm dealing with a motion that attempts to suspend the rules that all of you all voted for. So I will watch and see what happens and I won't have the opportunity to speak again until we close unless somebody saw things reaching a turn where they might feel that in fairness, I need some time.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Witek, do you wish to speak to the motion to overrule the Chair? Senator Lindsay, do you wish to speak to the motion to overrule the Chair?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Madam President and members, I rise to support the Chair but I also been kind of going through the rules trying to see if we can respond to Senator Chambers' challenge I guess. While I'm doing that I would also just mention that a motion to bracket, and Senator Chambers is well aware of this, is amendable and if it's postponed to a date certain, that date can be any one of a number of 365 different dates this year and then any number of years after that. So in response to that, I do have a motion pertaining to his motion that if the Chair is upheld or is not upheld, that would prohibit amendment of the bracket motion. I think we do have to...the question is...I guess I disagree a little bit with Senator Chambers as far as what courts would do. First of all I think it has to be pointed out that we're not a court. We are very clearly a different branch of government. We operate under a different manner. We are admittedly a political body which operates under different rules. Our rules are designed to foster debate to encourage the movement of bills through the process and when those rules are used to thwart their purpose which is orderly consideration of legislation, when the rules are used to thwart that purpose and not to help foster that orderly movement of legislation, proposed legislation, then I think it is in order to suspend those rules and then the question becomes in suspending those rules, does a motion such as that drafted by Senator Withem which is very clear in its intent, very clear in its intent, and specifically sets forth that it is intended to suspend the rules to prohibit further motions, to prohibit further amendments, is that fair notice to everyone in the Legislature what is being voted on and I think it is. I think we all knew exactly what that motion was