

Legislature, I had two reasons for offering it, to show that sometimes when efforts are made to stop discussion the discussion invariably is longer than if you would have just allowed it to occur. The other one was that if we would have discussed the bracket motion since Senator Withem's motion, as drafted, did preclude the offering of any amendments, the discussion of the bill could have as easily occurred on the bracket motion as anything else. We would have had something before us that we were discussing other than a bill to which we could offer no motion or no amendment. That was part of the reason. Senator Abboud had made a suggestion but, Senator Abboud, there was another Chambers' rule adopted which makes it against the rules to amend or divide a motion to suspend the rules, so the Speaker could not have even amended his own motion to suspend the rules and I was just kind of waiting for that one in case it came up. But what I was going to do on LB 371, and nobody asked me other than news people and I wouldn't tell them but I meant the people who are really concerned about how long we're going to be here, how long I propose to talk. If somebody had asked me, here's what I would have told them. Under our rules, a bill that's on Final Reading is different from other bills because if we want to offer an amendment, we have to make a motion to return it to Select File and whatever amendment that is to be considered cannot be itself amended. So if I had three motions up there and Senator Lindsay following those has a motion to allow no further debate beyond three hours then you would have achieved whatever it was you thought was necessary in stopping me from keeping us here till midnight, but on three amendments I couldn't keep us here till midnight anyway. If I spoke to open two other times, that's 20 minutes, and a close, that's 25 minutes, if I did that four times, that's 100 minutes. That's an hour and 40 minutes. Wouldn't take us anywhere near midnight. Is there a motion on any other bill up there? Is there an attempt to amend any other bill? I was the problem and with all due respect to Senator Witek and others who have concerns about 371, you all know there is no person on this floor who would carry this body to midnight on that bill because the only way it can be done is to offer amendments. Senator Lindsay has cut all that off at the pass. If you would have looked at what's on the desk, you would have seen that nothing could be considered beyond my amendments which, at most, would take an hour and 40 minutes, but some of them I wasn't going to consider anyway. So this is where we are. It's 3:38. I don't know how long we've been talking about these other items but the reason I thought the rule matter was so important once it became