

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

January 13, 1999

terms of a threat so that debate won't go as long, it has become the floor now instead of the ceiling, and there are people who voted for cloture, to put it in the rule book, who now say we shouldn't have that, it's not a good rule and it hinders what we're doing. You have to be around here awhile to see how a rule designed for one purpose has the exact opposite effect. Senator Landis is right when he pointed out the thinness of the rule book but the thickness of my will. I will not yield. I will not bend. I will not compromise. I have no compassion. I have no mercy. I have no give in me when a matter of principle is at...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...stake and everybody's on the other side and they, by sheer force of numbers, think they're going to compel me to capitulate. I will not do it, and I can bring the Legislature to a halt. And others, if they had the will and the knowledge, could, but you all know, after being around here as many years as you have, they're not going to stand because they cannot even stand when their colleagues get angry or a lobbyist pounds the table or the Governor says, shut up over there, don't talk about that, you do this and that. And they knuckle under and I watch them, and some of them melt and come to me and say, Ernie, I know this was my position but I can't keep it because they jerked the choke chain. I know my colleagues. I know this process. We need to get rid of this. But let me tell you this. If you don't repeal it, I don't even care. It's a dead letter anyway. I am trying to clean and unclutter...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the rule book.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: You've heard the closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Chambers amendment to the proposed permanent rules. There has been a request for a call of the house. All those in favor of placing the house under call vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays to place the house under call, Mr. President.