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I'm not afraid of putting this issue in your hands and living with the result. I'll be happy to live with the result, including that the bill fail to advance. I have no fear of the body; I have no fear of you. Senator Chambers, I think, is afraid of you. Senator Chambers is afraid of his colleagues, and he's afraid of their judgment, because he will not give them the chance to render that. He knows he hasn't persuaded you. He knows his arguments have not touched you to the quick, to the point that the majority of the body agrees with him. And therefore, he cannot permit himself to let you vote on the underlying issue. Well, I'll tell you this. I suppose there's a desire to push us towards use of the cloture vote. I'll reveal...I think Senator Chambers is very good at this, at announcing transparently what his strategy is, and when he announces it, it comes true. Here's my strategy, I'll tell you what it is. I deserve the majority of this body to say I'm wrong or I'm right, the bill is good or it's bad. It's a dangerous idea, it's an unwise idea, it's a badly written idea. Or it's an opportunity for well-being, strength, growth, jobs, and investment. I think the rule should be the majority of the body. Five minutes ago I could have called cloture. I'm not going to call cloture. This body will spend as much time as it wants, or as much time as the Chair will permit, or as much time as the Speaker will allow, to issue this case. But if you want to play to the clock, I'm not going to invoke the clock. Why? Because this body is meant to be a democratic body ruled by the rule of majority, and I will not accept the idea that I have to necessarily be pushed into getting 33 votes. Now I may get pushed off the agenda. All right. But I should get, ultimately, a vote on the bill, and I'm prepared to wait until my opponents get a chance to go through the bill and make their arguments, win whatever fights they want to on the amendment, throw up a kill motion...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...that's successful--fine. But cloture is irrelevant here. Twenty-five votes of 49 is the rule that we're instructed to follow. Cloture is our own rule to solve the problem of the clock, and I'm indifferent to the clock. So if you're trying to talk this to death, it may work between the