

March 22, 1976

SENATOR RICHARD LEWIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I didn't really wish to speak to this amendment but I do have a motion up there that I would like to take up and I think you should dispose of this amendment. So if you will just give me time a moment later, I will yield at this time.

PRESIDENT: All right. That is the last of the lights. Senator Cavanaugh, will you close debate on this matter?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there has been a lot of rhetoric and a lot of inflammatory rhetoric in the course of this debate on medical malpractice, but, Senator Schmit, you have lied to the members of this Legislature and you know that you have in stating that I do not want a medical malpractice bill and you know, Senator Schmit, that LB 703 or no medical malpractice legislation would have come to the floor of this Legislature from the Health and Welfare Committee if I had not promoted such legislation to come from that Committee and you know that I worked many long and difficult hours and with you to assure that that legislation and that issue would come before this Legislature and so I take grave exception to your statement that I do not desire to address myself or have this Legislature address itself to the medical malpractice question. It is a bold lie and you know it is a lie.

PRESIDENT: Yes, Senator Schmit, order. Sir.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Cavanaugh has called me a liar on this floor and I take exception to it and I wish to have that language stricken from the record.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: I object.

PRESIDENT: You could temper your language. The Senator did say that what you said was not the truth and that is legitimate debate and I think both sides know what the other is talking about but the Chair will not rule on this point and asks that Senator Cavanaugh continue and ask to avoid using the direct accusation of liar.

SENATOR SCHMIT: (Microphone off) on that and I believe that I am entitled to have that vote.

PRESIDENT: What vote is that?

SENATOR SCHMIT: On having the language stricken in which Senator Cavanaugh referred to me as a liar.

PRESIDENT: Would you give me that...all right, I will take that. So I can properly rule, can you give me the rule, please, Senator?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: While you are looking for that, may I ask you a question?

PRESIDENT: Yes, sir.