

January 11, 1995

need to bring something into perspective here on the subject of using the rules. When you're in a position where the vast majority of the body is in opposition to you, nevertheless, there needs to be extended discussion so that the issues can be presented. You don't just do that on a whim. Ray Charles, I heard him speaking about singing one time and he was talking about yodeling and he said yodeling is between two levels. And he said you don't get up in the morning and just decide you're going to yodel, you have to work at that. And then he explained the process through which you go and all of a sudden I saw yodeling as an art, something that not anybody could do. For example, if you sit down on a pin, what comes out of you is not a yodel. It might be a yell but it's not a yodel. Well it takes more than just a notion to do with the rules what I do. First of all, it takes knowledge. Secondly, it takes stamina and, thirdly, it takes fearlessness. There have been senators who told me they were going to fight a bill tooth and nail, then they come back and say well everybody was so upset with me I was afraid to do it. Or a certain interest in the lobby told them if you do this, then you're going to be punished for it and they don't do it. The rule is there and whenever using the rule accomplishes my ultimate legislative purpose, I'm going to make use of the rule. I don't care who gets angry. I don't care who gets irritated. I don't care who gets frustrated. If you can't deal with this kind of work, you shouldn't be in the Legislature. If I was incapable of finding ways to frustrate the will of the majority when the will of the majority works against the interest of those who I think should be represented, then somebody better than me should be filling the position I'm filling. But there is a song that says nobody does it better and I apply that to myself. Nobody on this floor who has ever been here in the past, who is here now, who will be here in the future has done it better, does do it better or will do it better than I do because they will not have that combination of ingredients present all the time. Senator Maurstad and somebody before it's over is going to say, what we're going to have to do is stir the mustard because we play with people's names around here so get ready for all of that, but a lot of times I am asked why will I say things that irritate the senators when I'm going to need their vote. Because I know that the inclination of the human intellect is toward the truth and when the truth is presented compellingly, as I am able to do on occasion, people will forget these moments when they were irritated because they know that there is a broader picture, a deeper issue and I am using my methodology to try to present the issue in the way that