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(Start of Belt #6)

and I think that is how we should continue with this particular Rule and defeat the Marsh amendment.

PRESIDENT: All right. Senator Proud. Senator Proud, would you yield the floor? Stand up, but I want to make an announcement here. We are losing some of the students and I really want..like to have them introduced. We have 39 students and three adults from the Eighth Grade of the Bennington Public Schools today. They are from Senator Dickinson's area. Their instructor is Mrs. Eileen Borchers. They are in the south balcony. And, then, additionally we have 41 Seniors from the Hebron High School. Their instructor is Mr. Robert Fisher and they are from Senator Maresh's district and they, too, were in the south balcony. We are delighted to have had you here today as visitors to the Nebraska Unicameral chamber and it isn't easy to break into the debate in order to introduce everybody, but we did want you to know that we acknowledge your presence here. Now, Senator Proud, back to you.

SENATOR PROUD: Well, Mr. President, I believe we have spent about enough time on this, but, nevertheless, the Rule we are talking now is a very extremely important Rule because it involves our very working conditions. I concur with the chair that the Rule, first of all the amendment, is too loosely drawn. Now, for the past several years, I have had a student assigned to me from Wesleyan and that's worked out very well. However, just to use the words "student assistant" in my judgment is way too broad because there are times when we have to consult with each other, feel that we do, over here on the side to avoid some confusion on the floor and it is a little more private, and if we open this up just to a broad category of student assistants, that can mean almost anything and the very idea of having 49 or whatever student assistants here, I don't believe we can operate our Legislature under those conditions. And if a Senator, if he can have two assistants, well, at any time that he wants somebody on this floor, he can just use that as an excuse that these are my assistants and that is what they are doing taking up all this room here. So, I think we ought to proceed with extreme caution in opening this up to student assistants. Now, just let's look at this a little more in depth. What does a student assistant do? Well, to the best of my knowledge, a student assistant is down here to observe the Legislature, to work with a particular state Senator and how do you work with a state Senator? You don't have to have that student assistant right at your right hand all day. You can consult with that student assistant in your office or a number of other places and, although I am not opposed to having a limited number of so-called student assistants here on the sidelines, just opening it up this broadly I would be opposed to it because we don't know how many Universities or Schools in the future will want student assistants and we still have to operate here under some kind of reasonable working conditions and I think, perhaps, you could work just as well with a student assistant if he or she were not seated on the side.

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Whitney. Passing. Senator Simpson is next, then.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think somewhere in this area we have to make the determination that we are going to allow these young people to come and work with the Senators to some extent. I guess maybe I'm unique. We are talking about one and I have two. One for six hours a week and the other one for twenty hours a week, and I find it necessary from time to time to have them present here with me. I don't think that we should tie down these people and put them up in the balcony. Neither do I feel that the sides should be filled up with students, but I don't think that we find with the amount we have here