

I oppose Senator DeCamp's motion to suspend our rules and I hope that we can proceed with dispatch to the next motion. I will also point out that in this particular case, we would have wasted less time if Senator DeCamp hadn't been in such a hurry to speed us up. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, when it comes to delaying legislation or manipulation, I have to say that the Legislature does not live by rules alone, but by deals and agreements which are made for whatever reason. We have an example of that this morning where on the special order the abortion issue was to be discussed, but we get a sheet this morning with it lined through. Now I understand Senator Dworak is not here, but Senator DeCamp is and he's on the bill. They are trying to make fragile coalitions hold together. They are making deals. So when Senator DeCamp and his cohorts decide to delay legislation, they go ahead and do it. Now the rest of the Legislature may knuckle under to those who have the power or whatever it is they're considered to have, but that has not worked with me...it will not work, and if the only way you can hush me up is to vote to suspend the rules, I'd say have at it. But you're not going to stop me from making the attempt to speak, and I will be able to use ridicule, scorn and every other means at my disposal to hold this Legislature up to the public contempt that it will so rightfully deserve. When you have a person who has to handle lost causes in the way that I often must do, and there are others of you who will be steamrollered and bulldozed on issues like abortion, medical malpractice, and products liability, because there are forces outside of the Legislature pushing you, then certainly you have the numbers to suspend the rules as you have done in the past to prevent me from taking the side which others are not willing to speak on. But the only way you're going to be able to do it is by suspending the rules, and you may gag me on this floor, but you won't gag me off this floor, and I will have opportunities to address public assemblies, gatherings of individuals who are interested and concerned about what happens in this Legislature, and I believe they'll listen to me more than they'll listen to you, because as is often stated, I know how to use the English language and make my point clear. If there are other people, for whatever reasons, who are not able to argue effectively, then they ought to just sit down and be quiet, but not try to suspend the rules. I did not make the rules of the Legislature. I found them in place when I came here. If those who came before me did not know how to utilize the rules, or the legislative process, that is not my problem,