

certainly was not when I came in as a freshman, it has some pretty far-reaching ramifications. What we try to do on this floor is decide whether certain things can be debated and cannot be debated based on whether they are germane and this thing has a lot of ramifications and you are going to posture yourselves as you go through this session and future sessions on germaneness and it is important that you come down on one side or another and that side has to be either we are going to be very strict interpretationists of bills or we are going to be relatively loose interpretationists or constructionists, whichever way you want to go. And you will come to find out that some of the people in this room are very much extreme one way or another. My particular feeling has been that we don't want to get caught up in structure when it comes to germaneness issues, that if we have an important issue that we need to discuss that we should look at the situation rather loosely. That is my personal feeling, so that we don't prohibit important things coming to the floor just because of a technicality. With regard to the vote that was just taken, I probably should have spoken on the germaneness issue looking back, but my feeling is that I am not going to support this amendment because I think it needs to have a hearing, number one. I think that the pros and cons of the issue ought to be aired fully in a hearing process which is ideally our form of government here. And since the bill has not come as a bill and since it hasn't been brought up as a bill even last year, as Senator Landis said, I think it deserves to have good public notice and hearing. I think it has some merits and I think it has some real pitfalls. I am not going to support it, not because I have made a decision on whether it is a good or bad amendment. I am going to support it because I think it should have a hearing where the public has good notice and can debate the issue. But I do believe that the issue should have been ruled germane because it, obviously, deals with an area that this bill deals with and, obviously, deals with an exemption of taxes that this bill deals with. And I think that we made a mistake, personally, by allowing it not to be germane. I was planning on voting for it to be germane and I did...I am sorry that that lost. I would have gotten up and spoken as I have now had it been ruled germane. I am taking this opportunity to tell you my feelings on the thing. I think you need to look at this issue of germaneness very carefully as we go along. To conclude, I will say that I am not in favor of the amendment, not because it has merits or demerits but because