

proposition enacted, so they would like it not to be discussed. The germaneness hurdle is the easiest way to get people off the spot. I don't think the rules ought to be manipulated in the way that they have been. I have been one of those who have opposed, greatly, the narrow construction of the germaneness rule because it is not narrowly construed in every instance. It is used as a stratagem, depending on the issue involved and the person raising the issue. I'm going to try to be as consistent as I can when it comes to how this rule is handled. I'll probably be on the losing side more times than on the prevailing side. But this is one time when Senator DeCamp, who is often wrong, is right in saying that the proposition is germane. But he maintains his record of being wrong as far as the merits of the proposition.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, then Senator Withem, then Senator Higgins.

SENATOR DECAMP: I'll just wait to close whenever they are ready.

SPEAKER NICHOL: All right. Thank you. Excuse me. Yes, Senator Withem, then Senator Haberman. I misread the list. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I'm going to do something kind of strange here. I'm going to begin by publicly apologizing to Senator Wesely for a remark I made last week. I said, on debate on LB 407, that nobody listens to him when he speaks. This morning I did listen, Don. I listened closely to what you had to say. Prior to when you spoke I probably would have echoed Senator Chambers' remarks because if you look at LR 23 and you apply our general germaneness rule as it applies to bills, yes, it is germane. It deals with the subject matter that is contained in LR 23, but you suggested to the body that we should look for a different germaneness standard on constitutional amendments. So when you made that comment I opened my Constitution. I'd like to refer you here to page 50 of your little Constitution in your rule book. Nobody is listening to me now. That is fine. That is fine, but I'll at least make a point. Where we talk about the method of amending the Constitution it says, last line, in Section 1, "When two or more amendments are submitted at the same election, they shall be so submitted as to enable the