

Senator DeCamp's amendment, it was to appropriate 8.5 million. The title of the bill says it is an appropriation. It carries some language. It is constitutional to have enabling language and a constitution...and an appropriation in the same bill. The language is very significant to the appropriation and I assume from reading the amendment 25 votes is what is required. I would have raised the question earlier if I hadn't assumed that everybody understood that.

PRESIDENT: Well, Senator Warner, thank you. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, Senator Beutler got up and asked specifically how many votes and Senator Warner was in his seat and evidently he heard him ask and say, a simple majority, and at that time Senator Warner should have objected. And as far as an appropriation bill goes, Senator Warner, this cuts down the appropriations. But, however, be that as it may, this is an amendment to an amendment to a bill and an A bill will possibly come along later and we can vote on that. So I think Senator Warner is out of order, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Is there any further comment? The Chair is ready to rule. Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I believe I had my light on. I make the same comments that Senator Haberman did. Obviously, Senator Beutler had a specific purpose when he asked, does this take a simple majority? And the Chair ruled yes, and everybody here heard it. And a number of people were not voting. It is my contention that because we were all voting under that assumption because the Chair had ruled only a simple majority that many people voted as they did because of the instructions given from the Chair and it has always been my understanding that the Chair has the final say, unless you want to challenge the Chair. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. President. It certainly is the prerogative of the Chair to rerule on a situation when a situation has changed. The situation was not understood by everyone in this body at the time the voting was happening