

is not germane and risk that you might challenge the Chair's decision.

SENATOR BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Go ahead. What do we have now, the...

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Well, I would move to overrule the Chair.

PRESIDENT: The motion is to overrule the Chair on the germaneness issue. Senator Johnson, I will be glad to hear from you.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I normally don't move to overrule the Chair on any ruling of germaneness. I think that the Chair has already said he felt that this issue was a very close question. Now given the fact that he feels it is a close question, it seems to me that the better part of discretion is to allow full debate on the issue. The unique feature of the Nebraska Guaranty Fund, which we are going into and making some substantive changes to, the unique feature is that the fund is ultimately paid out of the premium tax. It is ultimately paid out of it. In my view, it is simply not appropriate for us to sit here and talk about significant changes in the Nebraska Guaranty Fund without at the same time talking about the effect that that has on the premium tax and without talking about the offset. So I am saying in this time, given the closeness of the question, as the Chair has announced, that this Legislature ought to acknowledge that closeness, permit discussion of this issue which is highly relevant to the Nebraska Guaranty Fund and then each legislator can take whatever position he or she wants to take on the premium tax offset.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, the fact that this was not a Revisor's bill indicates that it is more than what is traditionally thought of as a housecleaning measure. It was given a full hearing. There were committee amendments offered. So it is not one of those items which could be said to be noncontroversial or nonsubstantive in its provisions. I do think that if we are going to have rulings on germaneness of the kind that was