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that the rules ought not be suspended. And I could also say that an attempt to suspend the rules to do this represents a manipulation of the system. But I don't usually make those kind of arguments, except to needle somebody, because I'm prepared, on any issue that comes before this body in which I have an interest, to do whatever is allowed by the rules to carry the day on that issue. Now maybe from the things that I've said about myself, despite my reputation, Senator Haberman, for humility...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...modesty, and self-effacement, I might be the most capable person and the ideal compromise. I don't belong to any of the groups that have formed caucuses and cliques around here. I'm independent. I have pushed for things, while on the Executive Board, that would benefit the senators. I have always condemned our tendency to travel cheap. You need somebody aggressive, forceful, and not just a caretaker. It is all right to talk about honorary positions, but no position as important as that of chairman of the Executive Board should be given simply to honor somebody. And Senator Carsten knows that I have a great amount of respect for him, so he's not even in the issue in terms of what I am talking about. Either the position is honorary, or it has substance. If it has substance, the decision should be made on that basis.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time is up.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So I can't tell you which way I'm going to go on this issue.

(Laughter)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, then Senator Higgins.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the body, the reason we have the provision for the suspension of the rules is just exactly the situation which comes up here this morning. We regularly, routinely, almost casually suspend the rules, far more so now than we did 18 years ago when I first arrived in this body. Senator Chambers has given a number of reasons why, perhaps, the rules ought to be suspended. He's indicated that perhaps he might very faithfully and very capably fulfill the responsibility of