

ask the Clerk if he would possibly read me the rule that allows this bill, this amendment upon reconsideration to be considered ahead of the amendments which have been properly filed. (Short pause.) Madam Chairman, members of the body, the Clerk is not able to find a rule which does that which has been indicated can be done. Now I am sure there is a procedure. I do not recollect such a procedure. My recollection of the procedure, and I have done it, is that the amendment is brought back to the body, but it goes to the bottom of the list. That's where it belongs. It is not a parliamentary procedure which allows someone to leapfrog over existing amendments and you might check the Robert's Rules of Order or Mason's Rules of Order. I think that if it's necessary, I would prefer that we do that because it is a precedent setting and it's extremely important and, Madam Chairman, I would ask that we check the Robert's Rules of Order as to the procedure here. I think it's important.

PRESIDENT MOUL: I will...

SENATOR WITHEM: Point of order. Is there a motion to overrule the Chair or something before the body at the moment for...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Withem, I was just going to refer to that. I have made a ruling of the Chair that states that if the motion to reconsider is successful, then that amendment is on the desk and there is amendments to the amendments that are on the desk and they will be taken up. Now if there...if a senator wishes to challenge that ruling, that's fine, we will take that up, otherwise we will proceed with debate.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam Chairman, I will challenge the ruling. I challenge the ruling, Madam Chairman, not because of any personal animosity toward the amendment or what is being done. I challenge the ruling because there is no rule that follows the ruling that you have made in this instance. I also challenge the ruling because of the years that I have been here I do not recall it every happening again. It could happen perhaps by agreement. It may be that it has happened, but I do not recall it having happened and I have witnessed almost every kind of extraordinary procedure that has ever taken place in this body. I know from the procedure that I have followed time after time after time that if you follow the strict Robert's Rules of Order that the amendment which has been brought back to the body is now alive. It is back before the body, but it does not automatically leapfrog the amendments which are in order on the