

November 10, 1992 LB 1

PRESIDENT MOUL: We are now discussing the motion to suspend the rules. Senator Chambers, do you wish to discuss this?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, the more this issue is discussed, the more intrigue surfaces. I think, for the integrity of the Legislature, the rules ought not to be suspended and if an attempt is made to do what Senator Warner is trying to do now at a later stage, it should not be done. Senator Hall pointed out that in this bill brought to us that was drafted by the Governor's office...let me ask Senator Hall a question. Senator Hall, was this bill brought in the ordinary course of events as bills that come from the Governor's office are brought?

SENATOR HALL: Madam President and members, as far as I know, Senator Chambers, it was.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Then I feel justified in saying it was drafted in the Governor's office. That provision that would benefit Great Western Sugar Company was put into the bill that made a change in the law as it existed prior to that. The lobbyist for that company is the husband of the main officer of the Governor. So when the Governor's office drafts a bill with a provision that benefits a large client of his employee's husband and it's done in the way that it was done I don't think it's appropriate. I'm not saying it's illegal. I'm saying it raises a question of the kind that ought to concern this Legislature and if it doesn't concern anybody else, it does concern me. I believe in putting these things out there in the open so that it's completely known and discussed. I don't believe other lobbyists have that entree to the Governor's office so that bills will be drafted to benefit their clients, and that's what the bill was drafted for, to benefit certain interests. So now I'm going, Senator Hillman, from the things I talked about when I originally opposed it's being brought and I'm making that clear so you don't think I'm implicating you in anything in terms of what I'm discussing now. There is too much of this inbreeding. There is too much in state government of nepotism. When I see the Governor's office and the Attorney General agreeing not to enforce the nepotism bill law so that a change could be made in the law in order that the one he appointed to be head of the State Patrol could have that job while his daughter still worked for the Patrol, then that Attorney General is going to turn around and pretend to be so concerned about upholding other aspects of the law. Then when