

Legislature will continue to get beat up. That's one of the things I like about being in this body, but you know why, do you know why the Legislature gets beat up? My theory is it is because we are the most open body there is. Has the media ever sat in with a panel of judges while they are arguing? I came kind of close, I read the brethren once on the United States Supreme Court. I don't know how accurate it was but it was intriguing to me. Does the media sit in...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: ...on the President's cabinet meeting while they put together what their public policy is? No. But the public has the opportunity, that I would always fight for, to know what the Legislature does better and why, better than any of either of the two branches of government, and so we are going to get beat up. Now, the only time I used to argue that...you know, the only time that I get concerned about an elected board is when they come in and they vote and there is no argument. When there is lots of argument and discussion, I take comfort in that expecting that they have explored all alternatives and arrived at a public policy issue decision. And in the Legislature you have that, the public has it, but I will tell you that during my time here the number of times that I have had confidential calls,...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: ...I treated as confidential, and for the 14 years that I was Chairman of Appropriations, the number of times that I would have an agency head, perhaps a code department head testify one thing in the Appropriations Committee and then contact me a day or two later and say I think you need to know.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: And it happened time and time again, and I don't want that opportunity denied to future members of this Legislature, because I know how important it has been for me.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Hall. Are there sufficient seconds? There are. We will now vote on the motion to cease debate. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.