

a while, they're going to understand that merely making an ugly face does not deter me. Threatening to put amendments on my bill does not deter me. Threatening to kill every bill I got does not deter me. I outlive people in this body. There are people in the cemetery right now who, while they were here, tried to stop me from getting some things done. And I said while they were here, rest...rest...may they rest in peace, or wherever they've gone, I'm going to outlive you, and I will, and I'll do it here. That's the kind of situation we're in. One evening one of the senators was trying to give me some advice, and nobody was here. I told him, look around the room, nobody is in here but these little signs, that's the only evidence that other people are in here, the only evidence there are people elected to these offices, these little signs. How impressive is this room? These are mere people, some of them intimidated by lobbyists, some of them sponging off special interest groups, others ordering them around and telling them what to do, then they're going to make an ugly face at me and say they don't like what I'm doing and I'm going to buckle under to them because they're angry! Well, what they need to realize is that some of the things they bring before this body are offensive to me, and I am going to resist them. Senator Witek ought to be proud of herself. She prioritized a bill that was not even hers. At that point it was facing monumental opposition. Now she has managed to win the opponents of the bill and converted us into proponents. That ought to make her proud. In fact she's done such a good job that I was thinking about adding my name as a cosponsor to this bill. I wish that I could bring people around who had opposed my bill as strongly as we opposed this one to the point where they supported mine. I'd be boasting, I'd be cheering, and I'd run back to my district and say, see what I was able to do, and I'm a rookie. I tricked all those old geezers and "geezeresses" into supporting something they formerly opposed. But I can acknowledge that I've been persuaded and I've changed my position from one opposing 627 to one in support of it. So I'm offering this motion because I wanted the opportunity to speak. But since it is substantively or substantially the same as that offered by Senator Withem, I will withdraw my motion.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment is withdrawn. Further discussion on the motion to bracket. Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I can't wait, Senator Chambers, for the opportunity to debate the