

Ch. 28 § 46

THE CHAIRMAN: If there are no further speakers on the germaneness issue, the Chair is ready to rule.

The gentleman from Florida [Mr. Mack] makes a point of order that the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. Rostenkowski] is not germane. The amendment would directly amend existing law by striking the existing dollar limitation in section 3101 of title 31 of the United States Code and inserting a new dollar figure, with the intention to increase the Government's borrowing authority for an unspecified but necessarily temporary period of time.

However, the bill, H.R. 2360, in subsection (a), refers to, and in the opinion of the Chair, is tantamount to, a change in the same provision of the law as the amendment.

Both the bill and the amendment are based upon estimates of sufficiency of the total amount of borrowing authority over different periods of time. For this reason, the Chair believes the amendment to be closely related to the fundamental purpose of the bill, and to accomplish that purpose by amending the same section of law referenced in the bill.

Therefore, the Chair overrules the point of order.

Speaker Declines To Decide Questions That Are Province of Chairman of Committee of Whole; Hypothetical Questions

§ 46.8 The Chair may decline to give an opinion on hypothetical or anticipatory questions; and the Speaker has declined to rule on questions that are the province of, and must be decided by, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

For an illustration of circumstances in which the Speaker may decline to give an opinion on certain questions, see the proceedings discussed at § 45.7, *supra*.

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