

Mr. MADDEN. Yes, but it is in essence the same bill, with a few modifications.

Mr. WATSON. Of course the gentleman will agree it is a far cry from the earlier version.

Mr. MADDEN. Maybe watered down a little, but it is in essence the same bill.

Mr. WATSON. I guess insofar as the Cadillac and Model T Ford are cars, we would be in accord—they are both automobiles.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman, I didn't intend to get into this, but I think the statement Mr. Madden just made should be clarified from the standpoint that at earlier times the rules of the House permitted one Member to object, and if so, the House could not proceed to send a bill to conference. So when we came up here to give the rule, it was pro forma. But that is no longer the rule.

We did that year in and year out on many measures, and I voted to send it out each time. But that rule was changed at the beginning of the 89th Congress, so one Member cannot now object and keep the bill from being heard.

Mr. MADDEN. Would you yield?

Mr. SMITH. Certainly.

Mr. MADDEN. This bill doesn't operate under the new rule. It came in under the old rule, so we don't want to rob this bill of the privileges of the old rule.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you suggest what you mean by "the new rule?"

Mr. MADDEN. We don't want to be unkind to this bill and be technical. We should give it the privilege of operating under the rule that it came in under a year ago. And I think we should not be unfair to the bill by making a new rule on this particular bill.

Mr. SMITH. I am not talking about being unfair. But in January 1965 we changed the rules so that one Member could not do that. We have time and again sent things down to the floor and one person would object and the House couldn't go ahead. So the two instances, in referring to that civil rights bill and this one, are not identical from a procedural standpoint.

That is all I have, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Anything further? Mr. Watson.

Mr. WATSON. Mr. Chairman, I believe the gentleman from Massachusetts had a question.

Mr. O'NEILL. I wanted to comment—of course if you get this bill back to the Senate under the processes you are proposing, you go through 40 days of debate again, there is a great possibility this bill could never be enacted into law.

Mr. WATSON. May I say to my friend that we have a grave enough responsibility to discharge our duties as Members of the House of Representatives, and I am sure our people will never hold you nor me responsible for what the Senate does on the other side.

Mr. O'NEILL. I think the American people will hold the Congress as a whole responsible for this legislation. I would hate to think what would possibly happen in the major cities of this country if this Congress doesn't act this week.

Mr. WATSON. Well, we have had a lot happen despite other bills that have been passed.