What step in this proof causes the incorrect conclusion?

Proof that 2 = 1

a = b	Pick two equal numbers, a and b
$a^2 = ab$	Multiple both sides by a
$a^2 - b^2 = ab - b^2$	Subtract b^2 from both sides
(a - b)(a + b) = (a - b)b	Factor each side
$\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}$	Cancel the common factor on both sides or divide both sides by $a - b$
b + b = b	Substitute a = b (from step one)
2b = b	Simplify
2 = 1	Divide both sides by b