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and telephone interest in legislation that this body has addressed. The people who have shown their interest follow through to see what happens. In the past there has been legislation that my constituents have been interested in, and when I go home they say, what happened, or they read about it and they said, veto, veto. They say, well, Rex, why didn't you override the veto? You supported the issue, it had 43, 44 votes to pass the bill, and you know I feel a little embarrassed to say, well, we went home, we adjourned. And then they say, what did you do that for? Why did you not stay and finish the job? And I think they're absolutely right. They are absolutely right. If we stand here, if we vote 44, 43, 42 in favor of a piece of legislation, and it's vetoed, regardless of the politics of the Governor, I'm willing to accept the responsibility of having the opportunity, if offered, to override that veto if I'm in favor of the legislation. Now, it's unfortunate to me that this issue has taken a political flare in the press. You know it hurt me just a little bit when I looked at the voting record of the people who voted on this issue. Now it was split down party lines. And what bothers me about that is this, we are a nonpartisan body. We're elected as a nonpartisan body, we vote as a nonpartisan body, but here comes an issue, here comes an issue that for some reason some people want to throw the nonpartisan part out the window and make it a political issue. Yes, I visited with the high school students about this, and I explained to them that there are 14 to 18 hard-core line party people in this body on both sides, on the Democrats and Republican, that are going to vote what the party wants regardless. And I think that's wrong. I think the issue should be important. The citizens should come first. The legislation should come first. That's what should come first in this body, and we do not have that opportunity to express our will if we, in fact, do not have the opportunity to override a veto. And I stand very firm in supporting this issue, so I would ask you to vote to reconsider it. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator McFarland, followed by Senators Lamb and Warner.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I applaud Senator Haberman's comments. This shouldn't be a partisan issue. It's really an issue of procedure. It's more of an issue of who bears the final responsibility for the passage of legislation. It seems to me that we, as a Legislature, have the override