

yield to a question?

SENATOR COORDSEN: Yes, Senator Elmer.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Coordsen, please.

SENATOR ELMER: Senator Coordsen, we all have had, in our experience, members of this body that have had very, very close elections and recounts have been necessary and many times those recounts aren't available until later in December, given the November general election. If a contested election was taking place during the period of organization and hadn't been completed, how would that be handled?

SENATOR COORDSEN: I don't know that it would take that long, quite frankly. We hadn't considered that to be an issue in doing that. Whether it would take another two weeks or not, you know, how long, in your particular field of expertise, does it take to accomplish a recount after the general election? I can't answer that question, quite frankly.

SENATOR ELMER: I couldn't either, of course, was why it was asked and I share some of the concerns about doing this that Senator Haberman has, and also since we have a biennial budget, having enough time to deal with a complete budget in less than the 90 days that we have allocated. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: I rise, I guess I don't know how I want to...how I say I would be on this amendment. Part of the amendment is appealing to me. I rather support the idea of a five-day working session in which we could go through the process of revising the rules, for instance; perhaps introduction of bills. That would put us down here though...I think Senator Haberman has raised a point as far as staff and ourselves being down here. We would have to have all bills ready for introduction unless we could...of course, we would have so few days when the session began, in my understanding. Is that correct? But...and I like the idea of new senators taking over their new term of office at that time rather than waiting until January for that to happen. But one of the concerns that I have is that I don't believe that this is going to help us because the last provision of that, even though it has extended the 60 days which was the