

original intent of the offering here to be extended to 70 days, I understand annually from then on, so that every session would be a 70-day session, I don't think that that really provides enough difference that it would help us to process the bills, because my understanding is that there is no restriction on the number of bills that would be introduced. And I would hate to find myself almost every year feeling as though we're in a 60-day session as the pressures that we're under in a 60-day session, I think, are different than in a 90-day work session. And we know that in a 60-day session we have to rely to a great degree on a number...a larger number of bills going through a consent calendar process. And I guess I don't like that pressure that it places us under or the commitment that we have that we can't deal with a bill on consent calendar if something surfaces with that bill, which presents a problem that we can't correct that problem, and so there's nothing to do then except to pull the bill off the calendar, even though that piece of legislation may be valuable and benefit the state. So I guess I don't see this as doing anything to solve very many problems for us. I just feel like we would be perpetually in a 60-day work session state if we would go to a 70-day working session. Unless someone can give me some other reasons why or to dispel my concerns, I think that I'm not supportive of this measure, just given those reasons. So if the introducers would like to spend a little time trying to reassure me or tell me that this is not going to be the case, I would be glad to listen to what you may have to say on this issue. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I...this particular concept concerns me in many ways and I like Senator Coordsen and Senator Korshoj so much I hate to stand up and be against something that they want. But I have some of the same concerns that Senator Haberman has about the cost of our coming in in December and then going home and then coming back and you have the staff come in and go home and come back. It all costs. I also have a concern about the one session being only 60 days or 70, whichever it would end up. That first 90-day session, it seems to me with the budget, the biennial budget that you need to work on and the committee meetings that you need to have, the committee hearings because of the influx of bills at the beginning of the first session of the term of the Legislature, is an overriding factor when you start talking about how many days you are going to work. Concerning the number of bills, I