

January 31, 1991

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, you probably will recall that earlier on, when we had been discussing the election contest in the 30th Legislative District, we had indicated the statute that we follow requires...the wording is that the Legislature shall consider within 15 days the election contest. It doesn't say that the Legislature will decide, I'm not sure what the definition of the word consider is. But, in any event, in order to be sure there is no misunderstanding, and we have done this before, the motion, as allowed by the statute, permits the Legislature to extend that period of time. Having considered the 15 days as legislative days, which were up yesterday, and this motion then would permit to extend the time for which the committee can report to the Legislature its recommendations for you to consider and act upon. I should also inform you included in the Journal are two letters, which were sent to the counsels for the two parties, outlining some questions which we have requested briefs from each of the two attorneys. Four of the questions are the same, one question to each of the two counsels are somewhat different. You can follow that through the reading. As I indicated, those letters are printed in the Journal following the motion that is before it, on page 460. Unless there are question, I would just ask that the motion be adopted so that it's clear that we obviously have been considering the matter since the Legislature convened, but it will take a few more days to complete it. We gave a week, until February 7th, to the counsels to respond to the questions we asked in the form of briefs. And I would imagine that it would only be a few days after that in which the committee could conclude its recommendations to the body. With that explanation, unless there are questions, I'd move adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Warner. I'll now recognize Senator Morrissey.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Warner, I'm trying to read the letter here, I haven't had a chance to read it. Would you go over it one more time, I guess the time frame, I'm concerned...we don't want to rush into this, I realize, and you need the time to study it well. It's a pretty important issue. Just...I didn't quite catch what you thought the time frame might be that we're looking at now.

SENATOR WARNER: From this point on?