

February 20, 1991

slimmest margin possible, the concept that is embodied I would guess in the minority report, that it is time to deal with that. That's what my intent is this morning. I have an amendment to the minority report that basically, in my words, cleans it up and then I will be ready to vote on that and I will vote no. And I guess if everything stays the same as it was yesterday, it will pass by one vote. I don't know that...how the rest of the Executive Board would deal with the issue. I don't think that...I would not agree with Senator Withem that this is not something that we don't have to act on expeditiously. I think we do. I think we need to bring this to closure and I think we need to do it quickly. I think it should be done this morning one way or another. Maybe that is not possible. If that is not possible, fine, I understand that. Maybe the votes won't be here to adopt some version of that minority report. That's another story. That's another matter. Until we address the minority report, the concepts in it, I would guess that it is premature to deal with the issue that is offered by Senator Withem and others in rereferring to committee because for my purposes, I have not adopted the concept that we should ignore the statutes. I hope I never do. Others have and I respect that. Everybody has voted on this issue for a number...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...of different reasons, but I will continue to stick with my reasoning with regard to the issue of what the statutes require of us, of this matter, and I think at this point in time we need to address the minority report however that may be, vote it up or down one way or another. Should it not have a majority of votes necessary to be adopted, then I think a concept such as Senator Withem's, one much like what Senator Landis proposed or others that I've heard yet this morning, rightfully deserve to be addressed.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hall. We'll now go to Senator Hefner followed by Senator Landis and Schmit.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I believe at this time I'd have to oppose Senator Withem's motion. I know he is conscientious in offering this, but the Exec Board has met many long hours discussing this and heard a lot of testimony, tried to understand it and finally voted on it. And you all know how the vote came out. I don't think at this time that any member of the committee has changed their position on