

February 20, 1991

it, so I don't think this is the answer. Senator Hall has an amendment up. Well, I guess first we have an amendment from Senator Landis and I'm hoping that maybe Senator Landis will withdraw his so we can get to Senator Hall's amendment but what Senator Hall's amendment does is strikes most of the language except for the one paragraph that says that we seat Senator Dennis Byars, and I think this is the crux of this. Some of the members of the Legislature says, well, I don't know if we'd have to have an affirmative vote to seat Dennis Byars because he has been conditionally seated. Well, I guess it's just how you interpret the laws or the rules of the Legislature. But at this time I would hope that we would defeat this motion and that Senator Landis would withdraw his or else defeat his and get to Senator Hall's amendment to the minority report. And at this time I'm going to support Senator Hall's amendment to the minority report. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hefner. We go to Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I want to report to you on my discussions yesterday that I told you would occur and I will be referring to this piece of paper which has been put on your desk. As you recall our discussion yesterday, we got into the argument of what is voter intent and whether it has been accurately measured in Gage and Jefferson County. I met with the lawyers for both parties afterwards and I also had some revealing conversations with Senator Conway and others, and I can't tell you that everybody agrees. I wish I could report to you that this was consensus language, it is not. And so I want to go through this idea, tell you what it is about and tell you where different parties with respect to this language and then, Senator Hefner, I'm going to take you up and I will ask to withdraw the amendment to give you a shot at your minority report, but I want to explain where things are. It starts off, that the Speaker subpoena all in persons ballots in Gage County and Jefferson County which show a single set of initials or no initials which were not counted in the recount. Now there are 95 votes in Gage County, about 6 in Jefferson County, approximately 100 in number, and the ballots be presented to the Legislature for counting at nine o'clock on Thursday morning. They're right down there, they all exist, you can go down and get them, with a simple piece of paper we could go down there tomorrow, pick them up and bring them back up here on Thursday morning for a vote if we wanted