

February 20, 1991

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CLERK: (Read Chambers amendment as found on page 730 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Chambers, do you wish to open on your amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I voted contrary to what this motion is recommending. But I'm lifting myself, at this point, out of how I, personally, feel the matter should have been terminated as far as the contest. I'm looking at it from a different perspective now and dealing with it on a different level. This motion would give the Legislature the opportunity to put something in the record that constitutes a report of what the Legislature has done in this matter. It concludes by saying Senator Byars should be seated. It tells briefly how that conclusion was reached. Whether I agree personally with what is in the motion has nothing to do with my offering it.

SPEAKER BAACK: The call is raised.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I think the Legislature has got to do something, and this would give us the opportunity to salvage a shred of what it is that we're supposed to be as a Legislature. It gives everybody something of what they want. It gives me the satisfaction of knowing that with all of the time that we spent on this, the fact that it was formally presented to us, that we at least present something in the way of a report about what it is that we did. What I started to do was stand up and speak one more time on the motion as Senator Warner offered it, and, in order not to be insulting to Senator Byars or anybody else, I was going to take the way out that Pilot gave, I was going to tell you to draw in your mind a basin full of water and I would dip my hands in that make-believe water, rub my palms together and say I will have nothing to do with shedding the blood of this just person, the just person being the legislative process, the Legislature itself. This is not going to erase everything that in my opinion ought to be erased that we've done so far as a body. But it gives us a chance to end it with some modicum of legislative dignity. I hope that you will adopt this motion, which I don't particularly agree with, but it's not what I feel personally now about the contest, it's what I feel about the Legislature. And no matter what I think about the Legislature,