

Have you all voted on the motion to cease debate? Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: There's really not been enough debate. We have not had the other side of the issue.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We are in the process of voting right now. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 14 ayes, 15 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We will continue with debate. Senator Wickersham is next, followed by Senator Lamb and Beutler. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam Chairman, I'm rising to say that Senator Chizek, myself and I think Senator Robak have previously indicated that we were committed to the concept of redistricting, but that we needed to have additional information and to study the question. I understand the intent of Senator Withem's amendment is to hold us to that commitment. I'm not sure that that is necessary, but in this case I will bow to his wisdom and experience and if that's what it takes to cause the Legislature and cause the individuals in the Legislature to keep their commitments, so be it. And with that I'll support the Withem amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Madam Chair, members, I rise to oppose the amendment. We've had some history of this type of legislation before that we have this so-called hammer that Senator Withem is very fond of using and what it does is says that if we don't do certain things, then more terrible things will happen to us. I don't think that's the way we need to operate. I don't think that's the way we should operate. I think this Legislature is capable of arriving at rational conclusions without this sort of legislation. I don't think it's good, I don't think it results in consideration of the facts that should be because you take into consideration too much the alternative which is worse than anything else that has been devised. It's just not a proper way to legislate and I oppose the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lamb. Senator Beutler.