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felt was...there was a commitment to address the issue of the caucuses once we finished redistricting. We weren't able to do that for the other committees. I, for one, am prepared, if this is adopted, to accept that process for the other committees and go forward. One final reason for voting in favor of this, if you vote in favor of this you'll be much less likely to hear every time the words "fair and equitable" are brought up on some totally unrelated issue, hearing Dan Lynch have to stand up and remind us of this each time that...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: ..that those words are used. Seriously, I do think that it is...it is a fair proposal and a fair way of distributing the committee assignments for the Appropriations Committee. If there are...with that, I guess I'll just close and hope you vote in favor of this rules change.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Wesely, followed by Senators Warner, Beutler, and Rod Johnson. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President. I understand the sincere and strong desire of the delegation from Omaha to gain an additional seat on the Appropriations Committee and I can't say that they're wrong in that desire. Of course, there're impacts on the rest of the state and we need to obviously try and balance all that out. The question I'd raise is how the function of this would work and my concern is, in my reading of the language, it would appear to me that the Executive Board having this decision-making power, not the caucus, the Executive Board caucus. The way we do it now, I've served on the Committee on Committees every year I've been here I think, since 1979, and the way we do it there is we have the four Committee on Committees caucuses and we select three representatives. They sit down and, from within the caucus, they make their choices on committee assignments and then, obviously, there is the chance to exchange positions, to match up a desire and opportunities with committee assignments, but essentially we've held to the concept that the caucus has the authority, the three members from each caucus have the authority to select within their caucus area. I'm not sure that this language does that. My concern is that you could get...if the goal is to have the Executive Board caucus meet and select two Executive Board members and three Appropriations Committee members, I don't