

Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. I will now go through the list of speakers to see if you wish to speak to the Beutler amendment to the amendment. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I guess I rise to oppose the Beutler amendment. And it's kind of difficult, at this point, to oppose or agree, since I haven't actually seen it. But, Senator Beutler, if you'd answer a question for me. My understanding is what you'd want to do is also change the Constitution so that any override would take 33, or simply any vote that requires 30 within the body, only those would have 33 for the override, and leave the Constitution on the override on 30 votes, as it is on all other things. Would that be a fair...

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's right. The amendment applies only to those items that are identified in your main amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I guess I would oppose the amendment, though I certainly understand the argument for it. And I guess I oppose it for two reasons. The first one is I think sometimes the body, and if we're not careful we will do it, even at this last minute, attempt at a compromise on a constitutional amendment that we can put before the public. If we're not careful we're going to bring in so many side issues, and so many other possibilities that again we begin to fracture one person off because of this. Senator Wesely drew his line, and I hope it's in sand, because you can always erase sand and draw another line on another day. If we're not careful that will again happen. And I guess I have to ask myself, is this particular issue Senator Beutler brings forward as important, in the scale of things that we have actually as a body to decide, and that is are we willing to go home and allow the course to take its place without a public vote on a constitutional amendment, and without giving the Legislature a chance to deal with the issues, as an amendment would allow us to do. I don't think, I don't think the issues are...should be, at this point, related. And I guess number...my main reason is that I don't particularly see a correlation between 30 and 33. I don't sometimes see a correlation between 25 and 30, and I'll tell you why I say that. I know many bills in here that have passed 48-22, 42 to nothing, 45-nothing, you know, 39-2 and so on. And when a Governor's veto comes down there's usually a reason for it. And