

all kinds of horrible things are going to happen. They may happen, granted, this court is a very unpredictable body, but so far I have not seen any...anything that indicates that the court is ready at the drop of a hat to force a decision upon us. We have the clarification from the District Court saying we have to change two districts that are both even-numbered districts, which the general interpretation of that decision at the time it came out was that that means we have an opportunity to do it in the regular session. And, at this point, until...unless somebody can convince me that the courts are marching on the Legislature at this very moment, I see no need to vote for the reconsideration. We can wait until the regular session, in my opinion.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Conway.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Madam President, and members, I rise in support of the reconsideration motion, obviously, in that I supported the legislation as the majority of this body agreed to, albeit with 29 votes instead of the magical 33 that's necessary to implement this prior to the election. The crisis period is now between...potentially between now and November 3rd and, therefore, the extra votes necessary beyond the 25 fell into play because of trying to enact or make this operable prior to that particular point in time which is really the magical date. The majority of this body listened to the debate. Many members, part of the committee and not part of the committee joined and listened to portions of the hearing as well, listened to the debate on the floor and, again, a majority concurred. Now we are in a situation which reminds me a little bit of last spring when we were dealing with the mandatory 40 votes necessary to advance Amendment 1 to the ballot at that time and heard many people who were on the...on the majority side say, isn't it absolutely terrible that a minority is being able to hold this entire body hostage. And it somewhat reminds me of this now, where there's 13 votes on the contrary which, given the number of people that are here today, obviously, puts it short of the 33. As you go through this process, and, granted, those particular numbers are put into place for good reason that the body should be firm as a complete body to have those particular numbers. But as I look down the list of people that were involved in the process and the motivations that are there, I'm not going to chastise the body as maybe I originally felt when I walked up to the microphone simply because this was something that I studied and was convinced in my own mind that