

September 24, 1992

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, thank you, Senator Wehrbein, for the opportunity to speak here. I did want to speak on this whole question of inside the call or outside of the call. I am going to support the suspension of the rules. I may not ultimately end up supporting the bill, but I don't think that ought to be the issue as to whether you vote to suspend the rules to allow the bill to be introduced. This whole question of inside or outside the call, I think, is an interesting one. I don't know if that is up for us to decide or even up for the Governor to ultimately decide. The ultimate decision, if the Legislature chooses to pass something that is questionable as to whether it is in the call or outside of the call, will be made in the courts, and that is the appropriate place for that decision to be made, I believe. I don't think our Speaker ought to be ruling things in or out of the call, and I think if he chose not to rule during the First Special Session, that was an appropriate ruling that he had made. I think it is important that within...the Governor calls us into special session. The Governor has said we have a budget crisis, we need to deal with it. Here are his sets of ideas. We, as a legislative body, an independent coequal branch of government, need to have the flexibility to bring in tools that we think will perform the same objective that he has laid out for us but maybe in a different fashion. That's what Senator Wehrbein is doing here is proposing that we introduce another bill for consideration that will help us balance the budget eventually. I am suspicious, I don't like the idea of doing it through fee increases, so I am not going to be all that excited about the bill, but he certainly is, by bringing us this proposal, I think, laying something out before us that we ought to be able to consider, and I will be voting to suspend the rules, and I yield back the rest of his time that he has graciously given to me.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wehrbein, did you wish any more time? Okay. You have heard the closing on the motion to suspend the rules for bill introduction. We will now vote on that motion. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on the suspension of the rules for bill introduction, have you all voted? Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I would like a call of the house and a roll