

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members. The amendment merely strips the language that says the presiding officer would select the legislators who would take part in this. Whether you support or oppose the measure, I believe that it's merely a housekeeping amendment to say we have a Unicameral system, and the presiding officer for us is the Lieutenant Governor, a member of the executive branch, that I trust, respect, and have the utmost admiration for, but I believe, as it was stated earlier, that the Legislature ought to be in control of who goes to this type of a conference. I happen to think that the speaker has been selected because he has the ability to address these types of issues. He has, I think, the capacity to be extremely fair and would be the proper place for the selection to be embodied. With that I offer the amendment that merely recognizes that our presiding officer is the speaker, and I would urge the adoption of this amendment to the committee amendments. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. The question before you is the adoption of the Hall amendment to the committee amendments to LR 16. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of Senator Hall's amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Hall amendment to the committee amendments is adopted. We return to the discussion of the...oh, excuse me, Mr. Clerk, we have further amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, the next amendment I have is offered by Senator Witek. I think copies have been distributed. (See AMO700 on page 947 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Madam Chairman, members of the body, I passed out my amendment and I hope you will give it some consideration. There has been some talk here, although I wish we could have more...more opportunity than just this morning, you know, I keep saying that, to change the resolution to address some of the concerns that we've had here. I understand that this is not a constitutional convention that they are convening. I understand it's a "Conference of States". I also understand by reading a lot of the information from the Council of State Governments and