

you, don't get me wrong. What I'm trying to find out is, when you do have these type of gatherings where legislators gather together, they do talk about, for example, some of the things that are discussed here in some of the material that you've handed out about unfunded mandates, about various other things that these states are obviously upset about or would like to see changes. And I imagine probably there is discussion about...at some of those, I've never been to one, but...I mean to one of those particular meetings, but I'm wondering there's probably discussion about the possibility of maybe they should go back to their state and talk to their legislators about a constitutional convention and see if there's a possibility that that many states would want to do it. I guess I'm just wondering, is it possible at those kinds of meetings that the same discussion could develop, as at this particular meeting that we're talking about?

SENATOR WITEK: Not only possible, but probable. ALEC has already suggested that they informally get together and do that. But the difference here is The Conference of States will produce a document entitled "The States' Petition". And they say that this petition, this document is a new instrument in American democracy and will constitute the highest form of communication between the states and Congress. So that's...that's different than just having a discussion with somebody about possible changes to the Constitution. They are putting together this document and they're going to bring it back to the states for ratification, I believe. And at that time...

SENATOR VRTISKA: Wait a minute, you say they're going to bring it back to the states for ratification? Is that...is that, in fact, true?

SENATOR WITEK: I do believe that's...well, that's what the...

SENATOR VRTISKA: You believe it, but the idea...is it actually...is it actually, in fact, what the purpose is?

SENATOR WITEK: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: It is?

SENATOR WITEK: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, as I said before, I'm trying to work my