

SENATOR HALL: The amendment is adopted. Anything further on the bill?

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR HALL: We're back to discussing the advancement to E & R engrossing. Senator Withem, your light is on.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President. members of the body, are there other lights on, Senator Hall?

SENATOR HALL: There are not. Would you care to use this as your close?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yeah, I would use that...use this as the close.

SENATOR HALL: You are recognized to close on the motion to advance. Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yeah, I do appreciate the body's indulgence on this bill and I think I appreciate the form in which it is in at the moment. I am not as comfortable as I would like to be about one portion of the Lindsay amendment that was just adopted and the state in which the bill is in and I'm sure Senator Lindsay maybe publicly, I know privately, would probably agree with me. We would have liked to see more done in the area of judicial redistricting, judicial reallocation. It's not there. I do hope though that the people in the rotunda that are so used to calling the shots on this issue year after year after year have paid a little attention to the vote count today. And I hope Senator Beutler who I know is always discouraged on this issue when he offers his amendments and that they're not adopted, it takes a little bit of heart on what has happened today. I have never seen, in my years in the Legislature, seen the Legislature come as close to really grabbing a hold of this issue of judicial resources reallocation as we did this year. I'm really sorry that we didn't get more done than some members would have liked to have done but I hope, I hope the people take to heart the vote counts that have taken place today, particularly those groups that have promised us that they are going to be doing something in this area. We've had promises from the Bar Association, promises from the Court Office, promises from other places that the issue will be addressed seriously over the interim. I think it ought to be very clear that there will be those inside that will be watching to make sure that it happens