

Association on that issue, a judicial resource reallocation. They made a number of private representations as to what their position would be and what they would do. The reason I took the opportunity for this dialogue with Senator Lindsay was I wanted the body to be aware of those. But Senator Lindsay and I made numerous suggestions to them as to how we could be satisfied that this time they will follow through with a commitment. Keep in mind that the issue of judicial resources allocation is not a new issue, it's an issue that Senator Beutler has been bringing to the Legislature time after time after time, commitments have been made to work on the issue, hammers have been put in the statute, have been ignored. What Senator Lindsay and I had said to the Bar Association is, give us a sign, a sign of any kind that you're serious about it this time. They refused to do that. That's the point on recalcitrants. Senator Wickersham, you're 100 percent right that we do not have as senators the ability to say to an issue group representing a position that you must agree with us. They organize around issues and they organize around positions, and they certainly are free to take positions in support or in opposition. Where I'm saying they were recalcitrant on this issue was because they had made a representation as to a position, but when asked to put themselves on the line to give some assurance that their position would be followed through, they refused to do that time after time after time that they were asked. Which brings their sincerity into question and it's the reason again why I made those points. I think, Senator Wickersham, it's an organization where they are used to getting members of theirs elected to this body, and those members then will carry water for them on the floor of the Legislature, regardless of what the position will be, you know. And I can remember the time when Senator Lindsay and I had different ideas put forward. There was a path... I'm surprised that we don't need to get a new carpet in here because of the lawyers in this body who were summoned, almost continually, to visit with the lobbyist for the Bar Association out in the Rotunda. That's the type of thing I'm talking about is an unwillingness for them to put "themselves" on the line to give us an assurance that they'd follow through with the commitment they made, that's why I used the word recalcitrant, I stand by it. I think it's probably a nicer word than many other I'd like to use. That is my response to the comments you made.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Chambers, your light is next.