

June 1, 1995

make the motion to adjourn, listed under item 11 of today's agenda.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Withem, to open on your motion.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, procedurally, let me tell you what I'm doing. Originally, I had written the agenda, I thought we had kind of put people on notice that the intent...attention...intention, it's getting late at night and the words aren't coming out correct, the intention was to adjourn until Thursday, June 8th, to allow time for the Governor to complete his veto work so that we would be able to come back on our 90th day and evaluate everything before us. And probably, if I would have just gone to that, we would have gone ahead and voted that way. But some members did talk with me and they have some concerns with doing that. Now, I did make this a pronouncement to people that it was my recommendation. We did survey the membership twice on this issue of coming back on the 8th, both times the support was split but the dominant mood of the body was to go until the 8th. Some people came to me and they have a concern about doing this, and because it is different, because it's something we've not done, I think 1977 might have been the last time somebody told me, I thought maybe we ought to have at least a little bit of an opportunity to talk about it and let the body decide. My intentions would be to leave this motion up for a little while, to let people debate it, if they want to, hopefully not long. I can tell by people standing and folding their papers and all they don't particularly want to debate it that long. Take a little bit of time then vote on the motion to adjourn until Thursday, June 8th. I would ask for a machine vote when that time comes up. And if the motion is successful, obviously that's when we come back. If the motion is unsuccessful then we have to have some intervening business and probably the motion then would be filed by somebody to come back on tomorrow, June 2nd. So that's what will unfold here in the next few moments. I'd like to briefly speak to the rationale for the body taking this action. Most legislatures in the country, I find when I visit people from other states, do this. They...the legislative branch wants to have in its arsenal of powers in this struggle that goes on between legislative and executive, which we've been treated to this year, the ability to have the final look, not just at individual policy questions, but at the overall spending priorities of the Governor. Traditionally, what we have done is