

here. We have rules here that we voted on, that we put in place, that we follow, that Senator Stuhr followed to the letter, and now we have individuals coming after the fact and telling her, no, 20 days didn't mean 20 days, 25 votes, you don't...it doesn't have anything to do with the 20 days. The 30 votes has to do with the fact that the bill was killed, even after you filed the motion. Everybody on this floor should know that what's happening here is wrong, it's just outright wrong, and that we should vote to allow Senator Stuhr, if she can get her 25 votes, to pull this bill from committee, just like it's been done since the day I came here, I don't have any history before that time. I'll take Senator Withem's word for it that it never has occurred.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: We should allow her the 25 votes, just like we would allow any of us, because we all, until today, had the understanding that if committee action was not taken within 20 days, that it would take 25 votes to pull that bill from... That's what I was told, that's what I have understood, until today with the ruling of this Chair saying that we now need 30 votes. So this is a big difference here, and I think people should be very aware of the issue, outside of the issue of LB 943, but the change that you're making, and if we make this change, then we should say in our rules, take all this language out, you need 30 votes at any time to pull a bill from committee. And that's the rule that should be written. But, for right now, these are the rules that we operate under, and I say it should take 25 votes because Senator Stuhr is operating by the rules that we all agreed on. You can't change them in the middle of the game. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I think the issue is a little more complex than that. The fact is that we have a rule. And as I visited briefly with Senator Stuhr and Senator Hudkins, prior to this motion being taken up today, and I do think legitimately this is a close call, it's something that could go either way. But the issue that we're talking about here, and Senator Lindsay, I think, laid it out fairly well, is that what does the import of simply making this motion after 20 days have? Does that preclude the committee