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LR 18

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President, members. If Senator Kristensen would yield for a couple questions.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Sure.

SENATOR SMITH: Would the first election in this particular case have to be in a primary to then be ratified in the general, or could...could it begin at the general and then go on a year and a half later to be ratified in the next...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: That could, yes, that could happen.

SENATOR SMITH: That could happen. And has there...I'm not aware of a special election for the purposes of amending the constitution. Has that ever occurred?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Well, I was just looking back. I can't find that occurring in the last 50 years, and that's what I was looking for, primarily because most of those things get taken care of. There aren't that many constitutional crises. There's amendments by convenience, generally.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, thank you. I guess I have some great concerns over this and I'm not ready to explain a "yes" vote at this back home. And a lot of people are active in the process of distributing the petitions and not even necessarily paid, and I believe that if expense...expensive campaigns and initiatives are the issue here, take the current costs and multiply them by two, once in the first process and then again for the ratification. And I have another problem with our current constitution we have that took place with only one vote and then all the new ones take two. And I have too many reservations in all to give a green light to this one, and so I will have to oppose this. Thank you.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Tyson, you're recognized to speak to LR 18CA.

SENATOR TYSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I want to say that as much as I like and respect Senator Schimek, she has a sentence, a phrase, that she uses that when I