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SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. So we've only gone through..

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And that was scary. I just heard that comment over here. (Laugh)

SENATOR BOURNE: (Laugh) I guess what I'm trying to suggest to you is that I...it seems to me that a lot of the bills that I've heard...and maybe some other people can relate to this...but a lot of the bills that I've heard this year, there's really...and again, I'm not trying to be critical...but there's no compelling reason for change. It seems like we're introducing a lot of bills that are change for the sake of change. And I'm trying to get a sense of what we're actually trying to accomplish here. In my mind, I...you know, the present Chair of the Exec Board notwithstanding, I feel they're fairly competent people, as is the Chair of the Judiciary Committee, Committee on Government, Military Affairs. I guess what I'm suggesting to you is, why is the change that you're advocating for any better than the way the statute currently exists?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, I think that's a fair question. And, Senator Bourne, I don't think I'd be here with a bill today if 9-11 hadn't occurred. But one of the things that we're being asked to look at are worst-case scenarios. And if on opening day of the Legislature we were all in this building, and the executive branch was all in this building, and the judiciary, or most of them, maybe not all of them, but most of them, how would we proceed then? If lives are lost and, let's say, 50 percent of our legislators are gone, including the Speaker and Exec Board Chair and the Lieutenant Governor and so on and so forth, what happens then? I think what we're trying to do here is look beyond the ordinary circumstances in which you have to replace a Governor, and look at more catastrophic kind of cases. And as I said to you, this may not be the way to proceed. This is simply as a...it's simply a result of perusing the other states' statutes on succession.

SENATOR BOURNE: Great. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: This may not be the answer.