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SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I think Senator Smith is offering you a policy decision here that is really the opposite of what I think the Government Committee thought we should do. I think that...I'm really pleased to hear Senator Pederson's explanation of the Appropriations Committee language. I wasn't aware of it. I think it's good. I think it would have been good if we could have been on top of this about five years ago perhaps. But we weren't and I think it's still a good thing to do. I think the reason that I would encourage you to defeat the Smith amendment is because I think the Appropriations Committee intent and the Government Committee's language go hand in hand, and one deals with the financial and one deals more with the policy, although they're interconnected, I agree. I can't see how this could possibly cost us any money because you wouldn't need to provide any travel expenses or anything to the senators. So I guess I think it would be a good idea. It would have one person from the Appropriations Committee and one person from the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee that would serve as those nonvoting members. The report part of it maybe could somehow be combined with the Appropriations Committee report so they wouldn't have to be two separate reports. They could be to...reports given to both committees or to the Exec Board and the Appropriations Committee. So that, I think, is something we could maybe stipulate at some point in the discussion. But I would encourage you not to vote for the Smith amendment at this point, but it is a policy decision. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Smith. The senator waives his time. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'd like to start out by asking Senator Pederson a question or two, Senator Cudaback, please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Pederson, would you yield?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: I will.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Senator Pederson, we're talking about this