

involved in the process. Now you have people who are getting involved in the process and now you have people who have benefitted from not having people involved in the process turning around and saying, we have to change the rules of the game because now we have more people involved in the process. That's not only unfair, but it's also in this case been found unconstitutional. It is taking advantage of a bill of Senator Hall's that passed on the ballot that never at any time did it say that what they were going to do was raise the number of signatures on our petition process, it said that they were changing some wording that we wanted to have registered voters signing petitions. It didn't say that that was what the basis for the number of signatures on the petition would be based on, that it would change any of that historical number. All we're doing here, and every single one of us knows after the calls for the special session during the last interim, you made a decision then that you wanted to come to this body and discuss this bill. This is the time to do it to let the general public know what your feelings are on this, to be honest to those people who have elected you to be here and to say that either you want to put it back where it was before the court made this decision and then you can come in and try for your two-tier system or try to raise the amount of signatures or whatever you want to do at that point, but do it honestly, do it the way that the structure is supposed to...I just had a 15 minute phone call this weekend with the Governor on the conference of states and this was part of my point. It's...we don't need to change the constitution.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** One minute.

**SENATOR WITEK:** What we need to change is the people who use and what I consider abuse or take advantage of the laws that we already have in place, the rules of the game that we all abide by and that I was shocked when I first came here to find that the people who make those laws sometimes don't even abide by those laws, and I hope that every single person will understand that the vote on this amendment, on not adopting these committee amendments. I do not want these committee amendments adopted and will not vote for them, that this is the vote on the bill. It doesn't go past this first vote on the committee amendments. This is it. Your decision is made at this time as to whether you want to put the signatures back as in the original 6CA or whether you want to go and have this amendment in the form that it's in and have it challenged by the courts and destroy the petition process for another number of years that nobody knows