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understanding of what various provisions of the Constitution are and I think it would not be inappropriate for either the Executive Board or the Appropriations Committee to draft a statement and submit it to this body and it is my understanding, if we vote it with 25 votes it will--that the Supreme Court will respond. We don't have to wait for a particular bill to come up before we can take any action.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Whitney.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Mr. President, Senator Carpenter had some questions there and the Constitution is very clear on this matter and I think we should just simply explain it. The Governor may disapprove or reduce any item or items of appropriation contained in bills passed by the Legislature and the item or items so disapproved shall be stricken therefrom and the items reduced shall remain as reduced unless repassed in the manner herein prescribed in the cases of disapproval of bills. Now, what is that manner? It says in the Constitution that every bill, this is in Section 15, every bill passed by the Legislature before it becomes a law in every order, resolution or vote shall be presented to the Governor. If he approves, he shall sign it and thereupon it shall become law. But if he does not approve or reduces any item or items of appropriations, he shall return it with his objections to the Legislature. May I repeat those words in the Constitution, the Governor shall return it with his objections to the Legislature which shall enter the objections at large upon its Journal and proceed to reconsider the bill. If then 3/5 of the members elected agree to pass the same, it shall become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor. So, if he reduces any item or if he cuts out any item in the budget, he has to return that appropriations bill to the Legislature and this Legislature with a 3/5 vote, therefore, will--that is with 30 votes would be able to override his veto.

SPEAKER: Thank you. Senator Barnett, did you wish to be recognized? Thank you. Senator Syas, did you wish to be recognized? Then, Senator Duis.

SENATOR SYAS: I am going to be brief but I just want the Legislature to think about a few things. To my way of thinking and I think if you'll look back and if any of you have been here quite some time, the Governor always took the right with or without this new Constitutional Amendment, if he saw fit, to not spend the full appropriation of something he had control of, some department, they didn't spend it. I think that's true, isn't it Senator Marvel?

SPEAKER: Senator Marvel, do you care to respond?

SENATOR MARVEL: I'm sorry. I'm working on a request of the--

SENATOR SYAS: I said before I go on to other things--

SENATOR MARVEL: I did something that you have never done. I wasn't listening.

SENATOR SYAS: Well, the unfortunate thing, I can't always blame you for that.

SENATOR MARVEL: Go ahead.

SENATOR SYAS: In the past, with or without this new Constitutional Amendment, isn't it true in the past that the Governor, regardless of the appropriation given by this Legislature, the Governor always has taken the prerogative of not spending it all if he saw fit over department he had control of?

SENATOR MARVEL: Well, you say always. Yes, I suppose that not every Governor did but there are some who have and some who haven't.