

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Smith, please.

SENATOR SMITH: Mr. President, members of the body, they were just discussing, I think, the amendment that I have to the committee amendments. For you, Senator Vickers, my amendments would include the following two changes.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. Speaker, could we have some order, please?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Yes. (Gavel.) Ladies and gentlemen, gentlemen in the center aisle, we can't hear the lady speak. Please. Thank you.

SENATOR SMITH: I was just stating that my amendments to the committee amendments would make the changes that Senator Vickers was addressing and that were alluded to by the other fine senator across the aisle over here, Senator Landis. Okay. Basically what I would do would be to move to amend the bill so that on page 3, line 5, in the amendments rather I should say, you would be removing the word "twenty" and replacing it with the word "thirty". And then on page 4, line 11, following the word "with" include the following in braces: "(Note to voter: If you wish to vote in partisan primary elections, you must indicate party affiliation. For example: Democrat, Independent, Republican.)" And this would address the concerns that we've had brought to us regarding the time, the length of time for county clerks to turn around the forms and on the other hand, in the second part, to address the concern about the fact that people wouldn't intend to probably put down their party and then when they went to vote they would be turned away at the polls because they hadn't indicated their party preference.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Withem, did you wish to speak to the Smith amendment?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I do, Mr. President. I would merely like to say that I endorse wholeheartedly Senator Smith's amendments, one wholeheartedly and the other "heartedly" I guess. I don't know if wholeheartedly would be the term. Originally when we drafted the bill we realized that there needed to be a longer turn around time for mail registration than there was for regular sorts of registration. We put in a 20...there is currently a ten-day cut off on registration,