

Hoagland got up to make this motion he used the word that it was a conciliatory motion and that reminded what that probably really means. Under the rules of this Legislature for appropriation bills to pass they need 33 votes and I think we are in the process of fine-tuning a bill or trying to direct a bill so that when we go on to Final Reading of it next week that it would have a chance of passing with 33 votes. We may feel like we have a standoff now but we are going to have a dilemma next week probably. What reminds me of this is two years ago, my first year here, well, at that time I guess budget bills were going through just like any other bill. It was no big deal like these are this year. One of the lesser appropriation bills that was going across the floor here, the vote was being taken toward the end of the afternoon...I don't know if it was a Friday afternoon or what, but a lot of members were excused, and when the vote was taken, there was something about that particular bill, I don't know, that I didn't like, so I put up a "no" vote on it and they got 32 votes up on the board and that was it. And everybody looked around at me and said, change your vote. Well, I didn't understand that we had to have 33 votes so I just stuck with my vote and instead of recording the vote, they called a huddle up there at the Speaker's desk and it was something like that meeting that was over here on this side last night, a great big group of people, and that huddle took place for 20 minutes and I just stayed back in my chair, I didn't even know what was going on. I was observing. A lot of people were coming back to me and telling me to change my vote that it would make a difference. So I guess I still don't understand. But anyway I noticed a lot of people were busy on the phones here. I guess they finally found two of the members that were excused that were having a meeting down in their office and they brought them up to the floor and they got their 33 votes then. So I think what that reminds me of is that we are in a process now where under our rules we are having to direct this thing now to where we can...we have gone from one extreme to another to find out where we can get the savings. But now we are trying to aim for the home plate here where we can get 33 votes on it. So I would encourage that we take up this motion and see what the feelings of the people are.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: I would call the question.