

glass doors know that nobody back there, and I mean nobody, buys the finger that punches my buttons. I guess it really irritates me when the World Herald seems to take that perspective and put it out to the public. It's no damn wonder the public thinks we are a bunch of jerks. They don't seem...they never bother to point out the amount of money that might go to other people, their opponents, somebody that doesn't win. They don't bother to point out that you may or not have voted a certain way long before that particular election that the funds happen to come in. So I guess I just need to make the point that I think that the vast majority of the members of this body are honest, hard-working people trying to make the decisions as best they can, make the decisions as fair as they can, and it irritate me that we are held up to public ridicule simply because a lot of us, or at least some of us, are too poor to be able to run for elections with our own money. Now, I guess maybe the World Herald would like to have a body made up of people who are rich enough...

SENATOR CARSTEN: One minute.

SENATOR VICKERS: ...to fund totally their own campaigns. Well, if that is what the public wants, then I guess so be it. But I don't think they do. I think the public of this state wants and deserves some blue collar representation. My collar today happens to be brown but underneath it is blue and I am not ashamed of it. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator DeCamp, on the advancement, please.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, needless to say, I would encourage the advancement. Senator Vickers said something that caused me to react. He was upset at the World Herald. I think it was the World Herald he mentioned that had tried to imply or suggested that senators' votes went the way the campaign contributions were and I think he correctly and properly pointed out that that is rather much nonsense and I think there is ample proof of that. But, as I say, he pointed out he was upset. Last week I can remember when the bill failed to advance by one vote. It had 24 votes. I was asked afterward by, I think, one member of the press, they said to me, well, were there any new factors? Was there any change that caused you not to be able to advance the bill because I thought you told me, they said, I thought you told me that you thought there might be 25 votes. And my answer to them was, yes, there was a new factor and I think it was an effective factor and I commend them for their