

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Are the 11 all excused? I didn't understand that.

SENATOR MARSH: Yes.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: They are all excused. Can't excused senators still be brought back in any event? I think before we do this...

SENATOR MARSH: We are down to 9 excused now, Senator.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: All right. Not doing too bad, for a minute's worth of work. Before we take the vote, could we at least have the Sergeant-at-Arms provide us an accounting as to where the 9 missing members are and then I can make a decision as to whether I am going to ask for the patrol to be brought in and go get them, because I don't want to spend my time down here working with 40 senators when there should be 49 on the floor working on these issues. Could I...Madam Speaker, could you ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to at least contact offices and see where the 9 colleagues are before we do the vote?

SENATOR MARSH: I would request that the members will check in to indicate their presence, please. If each of us will check in, you will be aware of who is missing. Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Am I on? Okay. Madam President, I understand that Senator Nichol is in Taiwan and I would like to volunteer my services to go and get him.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Chambers, please record your presence. The other 8 members are excused. Unless there is a motion to do otherwise, I will ask for a vote at this time.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Have I...I have not had my accounting yet from the Sergeant-at-Arms. I do not know where our 8 missing colleagues are. Here is one of the 8.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator, I am not in a position to make that decision. I will intend to go ahead with the vote now unless there is another motion forthcoming.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Let me...no, we have done our closing.