

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: And they will have to adjust that withholding rate upward to catch up to the chagrin of our wage earners. And we could deal with it now, could be dealt with now. We have the ability to handle the issue, does take, however, the willingness of ourselves to come back again, painful as it is, as devastating as it is and deal with it as Rhode Island did and Vermont did. I'm not going to support the motion to adjourn sine die. I'll stick in the traces and continue to do the job on LB 1. I've got the petition in my desk drawer. If any of you wish to sign it, we need 33, I need nine more by the end of the day. Otherwise, I'm not going to do it. It will wait till next year as the problems compound.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Lamb, then Senator Hall, then Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LAMB: I'd call for the question, Mr. Chairman.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 6 nays to cease debate.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Debate has ceased. Senator DeCamp, to close, please.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, I made it very clear and I'll repeat it again. I had one motive in offering this and that is to bring it to a head so we aren't here till midnight and so we finally have a direction. Either we are going to pass the bill with the cuts or we're going to go home. I also wanted to make it very clear that I believe constitutionally we have the authority, the obligation as a Legislature to deal with the entire picture and the picture is some 20 or 25 million shortage as a result of the federal tax bill. The other half of that is probably 40 million plus, I say plus because I say it will be proved in the next 30 to 90 days that the economy is still declining in this state and you are basing your projections on a flat or even inclining economy, and therefore, under the laws and the Constitution that you wrote, you have an obligation to solve that entire problem rather than let it reach what Senator Warner just said was catastrophe. We keep creating catastrophes. Now Senator Johnson correctly pointed out that