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I would hope that this body will continue to insist upon following the law as scrupulously as we're talking about it here this morning. I doubt that we will do that. I think that we have been very well advised that the responsibility for placing the signature on the ballot is that of the election official. It is not that of the individual...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...citizen who is casting that vote. I think it's important we recognize that we here today...someone said, I believe Senator Warner said, we are sending a conflicting kind of signal to the voter. That is true. But, ladies and gentlemen, if we vote today to seat Senator Byars, we are sending to the election officials this message that you must comply with the law or else the vote of the voter will be counted, the right of the voter will be upheld. I do not believe, ladies and gentlemen, in the final analysis, that the statute can deny that which the Constitution guarantees and the Constitution guarantees the individual the right to vote and the individual here has voted and the statute, be it faulty, be it humanely...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...impossible to enforce entirely, the statute should not deny that individual that right. To do so would be a serious, grievous error. I would hope that we would not uphold the majority opinion of the Executive Board. I think it's important to know that the law is consistent. Different requirements are placed...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...upon different individuals. In this case, the election clerk did not uphold the law. We should not penalize the voter for the error of the election clerk. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. We will now go to Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, it's kind of difficult for someone like myself to get up here and speak when I am with all of these experts and attorneys on