

February 19, 1991

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...when you walk down the street and you look someone in the face and the issue is raised, do you think you did the right thing in the Byars-Korslund race? I can look someone in the face and say, yes, I did, if I know we left no stone unturned and that we are counting all of the ballots that should be counted in this race. And then I can say to both Mr. Korslund and to Senator Byars, you know, we did the best we could do. Senator Byars, there is no prejudice to this because Senator Byars, I assume, will continue to be seated until such time as the Executive Board makes its decision. It is the fair, right thing to do in this case and I would urge that the...that Senator Landis' motion or that the Chair be overruled and that we do consider this motion. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, with 25 votes the Legislature can do whatever it chooses to do. The Legislature is sitting as a body to judge this contest and is empowered, under the law in that capacity, to do what Senator Landis is suggesting. Based on all of the discussion this morning about enfranchising, disfranchising, the thing that you can draw from all of that is this, if a person marked a ballot and you can determine the intent of that person, then you should count the vote. What Senator Landis is suggesting is that we go ahead and do that and take 95 ballots which were marked, and the only reason they were not counted is because of a mistake by election judges, put those into the pot, count all of them, whatever the outcome that's the winner. Fine. I'll accept that. Senator Nelson is trying to show me something, I don't have my glasses, I can't read it, so don't bother me. Is this counted against me? Thank you, Senator Nelson. Look, I've got to tell a story so I can get myself back together. But the story is on point in terms of what we're going to consider. There was a man walking down a dusty road in India, and there were two large boulders, and between the boulders was what appeared to be the tail of a tiger. So the path went beside the boulders and around it, so he felt he'd be better dealing with this end of the tiger than the other end, so he grabbed the tiger's tail and braced his feet against the boulders, one on each boulder, and the tiger's tail in between. And the tiger didn't like it, so he began to express his dislike. This man would liked to have adjourned as quickly as possible to another location, but he couldn't release the tiger without