

February 19, 1991

consequences. So, while he was in this posture a holy man came by. And the man holding the tiger's tail called the holy man, he said, holy man, I know your job is to assist those who are in deep trouble and I'm in deep trouble now. And the holy man said, well, what can I do to help you? The man said, I've got a tiger by the tail, I can't hold on much longer and I'm afraid to let him go, so I'd appreciate it if you'd pick up a boulder and kill the tiger. The holy man said, well, based on my religious beliefs I think all life is sacred and I can't kill the tiger. So how else could I help you? So the man said, well, what you can do is hold the tiger's tail, and I don't have those beliefs, and I'll kill the tiger. So the holy man said, that's all right with me. And he put himself in the same posture as this unfortunate gentleman. Took the tiger's tail, braced a foot against each boulder, and then the other man who was released started to walk the other way up the path. And the holy man said, wait a minute, you said, if I took the tiger's tail, you would kill the tiger. Now you're walking away leaving me in this posture. The man said, well, I got to thinking very deeply about what you said, and you convinced me that all life is sacred and I don't think I'll kill the tiger either. Here's why I said that, we started out talking about what the law says and how it should be followed, that's what I was saying. As I listen to the discussion of others I've become persuaded that the law is not what's going to be followed, but we're going to do what we have a hunch or a gut feeling about. We're going to reach a conclusion that is based not on the words of the law but on what we think is right and proper. If that's to be the case, we should count all those ballots. The only way we can do that is by the method that Senator Landis is suggesting. We should vote to overrule the Chair, then his motion can be offered, adopted, and all the ballots counted. And I don't know of anybody who has talked about disfranchising...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...voters who could be opposed to this. If the argument framed in the question is this, why should those who, through no fault of their own, wound up voting a ballot that was thrown out due to a mistake by an election official, if that's the way the issue is framed, then I'd ask those who would oppose Senator Landis' motion why the other people, whose ballots were thrown out because of a mistake by an election official, why shouldn't their vote be counted. So I'm going to support Senator Landis' motion to overrule the Chair.