

proceed, in the absence of any challenge to what seems to be generally accepted by Delegate Schrag, then I think we will move on.

Let me ask, Mr. Secretary, did you have any challenge to what has been read?

MR. COOPER: No. It is what we adopted.

PRESIDENT CASSELL: All right. The Secretary says that that is what we have adopted. Mr. Vice President, I am going to accept those, as long as there is no challenge, hoping that we can move along. If it appears that that isn't working, I'd be glad to take your advice.

Mr. Coates?

MR. COATES: Yes, Mr. President, the Committee is of the considered position that the Convention ought to adopt its section on Budget Veto Authority, not so much from the stance of pride of authorship, but because, as the Committee weighed the delicate matter of balance between the Executive and the Legislative, it felt that if the Executive is empowered with line item veto authority, we ought not make the balance uneven in the respect that the legislature has to achieve a two-thirds vote of all of its members, but that two-thirds of those present and voting ought to be sufficient and provide the kind of balance against the

Executive's line item veto authority to give proper respect to the delicate matter of the balance of powers.

So we urge the adoption of the article as we presented it to you.

And then finally, sir, the other rationale for adopting this matter in the posture that we recommend it is that it looks like what we presently have, and we have been advised widely within this Convention and across this City to bring forth a constitution that looks very much like what we have, and this veto authority as we project it is consistent with what now is incorporated in the Home Rule Charter.

A final comment, sir, is to urge that we accommodate at this point the best wisdom of the Committee on Education and to adopt the section as the Committee brings it to us in its amendment, incorporating "unless otherwise specified in this constitution", and allows, when the Committee on Education's report is adopted, that safeguard for the education agency spending programs.

So in substance, this section provides a better balance between Executive and Legislative powers and also looks most like what we currently have, speaking to the argument that that would engender wider support for the adoption of