

1 DELEGATE HANSON: Mr. Chairman, I do not beleive
2 that the problem of attendance will be affected very much
3 o ne way or the other by this proposal. The Congress of
4 the United States, when there is anything that is important
5 to vote on. The attendance is very high.

6 I think that the good attendance that we have
7 had in the Maryland General Assembly will continue, whether
8 we have this amendment or whether we do not have this
9 amendment.

10 The problem that exists with requiring constitu-
11 tional majority for the passage of a bill is, as Chairman
12 Gallagher explained, that an absence is counted as a no
13 vote.

14 One of the most recent studies that has been
15 done of legislatures throughout the country, both Federal
16 legislature and the legislatures of 50 states, called the
17 American Legislative Process, by Professors Keefe and Ogol,
18 reports on the studies that have been done of voting re-
19 quirements in legislature. They point out that the number
20 of votes needed for passage of bills varies from state to
21 state, with about tWo-thirds requiring a majority of the