

1 DELEGATE MANDEL: I think our legislature,
2 compared to what you read in a number of newspapers,
3 when you stack it up against a number of other states,
4 our legislative process is very good and I think one of
5 the virtues of the fact is that we have had a limited
6 session. When we had a session in January, the legis-
7 lature of Massachusetts, which has an unlimited session,
8 was still in session from the previous January and
9 hadn't passed the budget yet. They were acting on a
10 month-to-month deficit budget, an emergency appropria-
11 tion, because they were having a fight over their tax
12 situation, whether or not to adopt a sales tax in the
13 State. So, they couldn't pass it, they couldn't budget
14 it and they stayed in session for over a year and hadn't
15 passed a budget in the State.

16 The legislature of Wisconsin was in session
17 at that time for eight months, had been in session, and
18 only passed two bills because without this statutory
19 limit, when we go in session, we know that after 70 days
20 or 90 days, whatever it is, we are going to be out of
21 session. So, what we have to do has to be accomplished