

Secretary: Vote explanation please. Senator Boquist

“SCR 25 and Senate Rule 15.05(8) regarding mandatory executive sessions for labor negotiations with legislative assistants is unconstitutional per the Chief Legislative Counsel in writing on January 28, 2019. As stated on the Floor by the Senate President, the intent is to mandate executive sessions which violates ORS 192.660(3) per the Oregon Attorney General and Oregon Government Ethics Commission. All three documents are in the Senate record as Floor letters submitted this day. SCR 25 and the Senate Rule are attempts to end run fair labor negotiations after the legal formation of the union to collective bargain for Legislative Assistants after the failure of leadership to address pay equity, personnel Rule 27, and unsafe workplace issues. Union negotiators would not have the option required by ORS 192.660(3) to opt into executive sessions plus may not be able to communicate labor issues discussed in executive sessions to the union members. It appears to be an attempt to break the union by circumventing the rule or law. Further, the intent stated by the Senate President on the Floor was for the Senate Rule empowering the same Presiding Officer is take precedence over the statute. It was stated on the Floor members of the media would not be prohibited but could not disclose anything outside of the executive session.”