

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, AM2270 I hope was circulated as printed in the Journal. There was a concern expressed by some members of the body, first of all, it showed that people were taking this resolution seriously and for that I'm very appreciative. Their concern was that this resolution was urging greater American involvement perhaps was more prescriptive than some members of this body felt comfortable with. I noted some of the debate among national policy makers where those that are actually responsible for making the decision seemed to have difficulty reaching a consensus and even to this day I think we see our national leaders having difficulty reaching that consensus. So what we have done is we have stricken the "now therefore be it resolved" provisions one and two and are inserting in their place one, two and three. The intent of this is to eliminate any reference to the United States becoming involved in a military fashion in this conflict. States rather that the United States should work for a number of goals, that being in showing the irregular forces become disbanded, assure the immediate effective and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid, et cetera, but makes no reference to how the United States should accomplish this, makes no reference to a military force. Secondly, it adds a new paragraph that the Legislature believes that the preservation and respect for human life should cause people to look beyond cultural and political differences in an effort to peacefully resolve this conflict. The Legislature condemns all forces which have committed serious war crimes against humanity and encourage the hostilities to cease and the continuation of diplomatic efforts to resolve the conflict. It does leave the other "whereas" references to seek increase in the number of refugees from Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina and the other references to humanitarian involvement, particularly humanitarian involvement by the individuals in Nebraska who are seeking to be helpful. I don't know if any of you noticed, but a young refugee from Croatia recently did come to the United States seeking medical attention and folks from the Croatian Cultural Society up in Omaha were very helpful with that. I think it would be nice, very more than nice, it would be important for our Legislature to go on record in support of this type of activity. I would urge you to support this amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Discussion on the amendment. Seeing none, would you like to close, Senator Withem? He waives closing. We'll now vote on the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.