

they take that area, and they give their life or they give whatever they've got for their country, for the protection of their country, the flag means something. When we landed on the moon, they put the American flag down. It means something. We do not...we want an absolute state, stated purpose that we do not want any individual on American soil to burn the American flag because it means America to us. It is a symbol of our country of what we stand for, of what people fight for, of what it means to individuals and that's why we want something like this. You can bring in every legal argument that you want to, every attorney on the floor. Senator Wesely has brought in some really far-fetched stuff here this morning that I don't even know if I even want to discuss some of this stuff. You know everybody can always bring in, you can always give argument how you want things your way. You can always bring research that, you know, shows, you can always bring statistics that support your position on something, but the bottom line here is the people that signed onto this resolution and probably the majority of the people in the State of Nebraska and the majority of people in the United States of America want an absolute in our Constitution that says that you cannot desecrate the flag of the United States of America on our soil because we are acknowledging that this is a symbol of our country that has meant so much to us and it is beyond even symbolism anymore. It is what we stand for in this country and it's one of very few things anymore that I think what's happening in this country now is we don't have those absolutes anymore and we're asking for one small absolute to say that this cannot be done and no matter what argument you give on the floor from an attorney's point of view, it doesn't matter. I doubt very much it matters to these veterans up here how much you guys can talk about is this right, is this wrong from an attorney's point of view. What matters is what we have in our hearts and what we know is wrong, and it's wrong to see someone do this to protest. There are other forms of protest that thy can use. We're saying we absolutely do not want you to use this as a protest....

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ...to burn our flag. I also wanted individuals to take a look, I asked Senator Withem about this, he said I can go ahead and bring it up on the floor. He said that resolutions have always been open to amendments, but if you'll read on page 27 of our rule book it states that a resolution is supposed to be introduced, read by the Clerk and then printed in the