

part, standing here and saying that this resolution should go before the committee. Let me just state these one or two comments and then you may vote as you please after the discussion ends. You know the Congress of the United States spent a considerable period of time debating this resolution Senator Haberman, and I would venture to say that Senator Kennedy who supports it and those who oppose it gathered material far more extensive than you have in your files and spent a far greater effort and amount of time in compiling reasons why we should support or oppose this particular ratification. I think that they did so in a most wise and judicious and responsible manner. Because at best it is a very difficult consideration. It is a very difficult topic. It isn't just one based upon, we're from Nebraska, we are a small state, we honestly don't want to give any more votes to somebody else because it dilutes our strength. Or, we don't want to give it because it is going to provide for two more democratic votes which is an issue sublined beneath the issue but it is one that I heard and it is one that is apparent. Nor in the question of minorities or a whole bunch of other issues that have been raised either publicly or privately. I think the issue is very simple and very clear and it is this. I believe that in an issue that has the type of magnitude that this type of issue has before us it is irresponsible on the part of this legislature to vote on an issue when they do not have the facts before them. I think that this resolution, even though it is a resolution, it is not a bill, carries a great deal of weight. I believe at the very least that a public hearing should be held to allow the public to present their views and to allow those facts to present themselves. Because contrary to what Senator Haberman says the issue isn't quite so one sided. I have never seen a bill since I have been down here, or a resolution, anything that has any controversy that is all black or all white. We all know that the areas are gray. There are pros and there are cons. There are good points and there are bad points. Any senator who is worth his weight in salt can argue either side of the issue. That is what my debate coach used to tell me. If you take an issue that really has merit just on the issue, not that it is necessarily good or bad, but is controversial and has merit in terms of consideration you can argue either side. You can find good points and you can find bad points. I would say that LR 30 fits into that category. It is too important and it would be extremely irresponsible of this legislature with so few days left, with many of the things before it of great importance to vote on an issue, especially in the form that this one is in, which isn't worth the piece of paper that it is printed on. All it states is a negative endorsement which as Senator Lewis said is not binding, it is merely a feeling of this Legislature