

I will try to bring my remarks more directly to the subject that is being addressed by Senator Hoagland's amendment. What I understand Senator Hoagland's amendment to be is to strike the language that would tell the President to lift the embargo. Is that correct? Okay, that is the extent of his amendment, so I will try to limit the time that Senator Johnson has given me to that point. I have heard Carter referred to as indecisive. I feel he is that way. I think he does not have a total grasp on conditions that the presidency in the country must face now, but what the Legislature ought to consider is not as this resolution states in number 9, tremendous damage has been done to American agriculture related industries, businesses and the economy in general, but what of the country's image since all other countries in the world recognize the impact that a country's image projects on the mentality and psychology of other nations. I am not in favor of war, but here is what you all are going to have to decide, and I say, you all because I think this is a time when we can be very frank. Black people don't determine any issues in this country. There is no black person in any position anywhere in this country whose word carries finality. Anything a black man says, does or accomplishes, even in this Legislature, can be erased by a collection of white people or an individual white person. So now we are really talking about who really pushes the levers that will control the operation of things in this country and that is white people. Now, if you want your white President to appear to be a temporizer, one who can be intimidated away from a position by a certain special interest group, how in the world are you going to turn around at the same time and say that he can stand up to the world and not be intimidated by Russia? The one you ought to fear if you are going to fear anybody is the Russian bear. If Russia detects a sign of weakness in this country, if I were in the position of a leader in Russia and I detected a sign of weakness, I would move to that vulnerable spot and that is where I would strike the hardest. I would see that this country does not have the will to fight, that this country is afraid of having its hospitals bombed, of having its little children killed, of having widows and orphans produced as the result of nuclear holocaust. I would see that this country fears war more than anything else and I would push and I would push right to the brink and I would say, bring forth your John Wayne spirit, let me see you do to Russia what you will do in Vietnam, or Lebanon, or Korea, or other small countries that have no chance to fight. I think what Senator Hoagland has suggested is that in order to keep the Legislature from looking positively ridiculous strike this language. It does not relate to the rest of the resolution any way because you know that the embargo will not be lifted.