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LR 233

body to go slow. Would you accept an amendment to your resolution which indicates on number two that the State of Nebraska, and I can agree with number one, but number two, the State of Nebraska declares it will join the Central Interstate Group, how about the word "intends" or "it is the intention of the State of Nebraska to join". In other words, something a little less positive, a little less binding, if you will, more to indicate the intent and then also add a Section 3 which talks about the public hearings that will be...pending the public hearings that will go on this summer by the Department.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator, I would not accept an amendment at this time and I will tell you why...

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Newell.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...because of the fact that I believe it is important that we give some absolute direction so that the public knows what we intend to do, so that if the public decides that it is not in our interest to do that, it will then come out and let us know that that is what they want us to do (interruption).

SENATOR NEWELL: Thank you, Senator, that is enough. I want to take the few seconds I have left then to urge that this body not accept this amendment. If I can get mine drafted while somebody else speaks, I will offer the amendment that I had indicated which will be a little less certain. I think that it is important, in fact imperative, that the public have an opportunity to become further aware and fully understand the ramifications of this commitment. I think that at this point in time Senator Schmit is wrong by saying we are going to make this commitment and, then if the public is angry, we may change it. I think that is poor public policy. It is the wrong way to go. I would feel more comfortable, and I can appreciate Senator Schmit not wanting his committee to hold hearings at this point in time if the Department is going to do that later on but I think it is essential, imperative, if you will, that we provide a little more public input into something that can be as important as this compact and the negotiations that are involved. So with that in mind I urge, if I cannot offer my amendment, if I don't have time, I urge you to reject this resolution, and if I do have time, I urge you to support my amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Well, Mr. President and members, I haven't mentioned it lately but some of the new members may not know it but I served for two years on the Environment Control