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to have on an issue as potentially important as this one. Now I think that it is important if in fact, as Senator Schmit has indicated, that we can change this if we should decide to later on that we make it clear at this point in time that we intend to do that, and I think it is also important that when we make the final decision, whether it be written in the statute or whether it be done by resolution again, that we have before us all the information on how that decision was made, the other compact opportunities that we may have made. I, personally, have no problem whatsoever with the compact. I think it is the right way to go. It is the obvious way to go. And I may not have any concerns at all about the Central states compact but I don't know enough at this point in time, and neither do many of my constituents who want, who are interested in this subject, know whether or not this is the correct way to go and all my resolution suggests is that we declare our intent and then hold public hearings, our intent to join the Central states compact, and then hold public hearings so that the public will have the opportunity to fully understand how that decision was made, whether or not it is in their best interest, whether or not it will in fact serve us well in the years to come. And it is with that in mind that I offer this amendment. It is with that in mind is why I urge this body to accept this amendment. I don't think we need to hurry so rapidly that the public will not be given full opportunity to provide what little input they may have or what great input they may have.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit, and then, Senator Goodrich, you will follow.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, and Senator Newell, I just want to tell you that we are not exactly galloping along toward a decision in this area. It was in 1971 that I created the Department of Environmental Control by introduction of a bill which subsequently did do the things that we are trying to do here under this resolution. Number two, the Legislature does by the adoption of this resolution signify our intent to join a particular group. That decision was also not made clandestinely. It was made in public, it was made in the view of the public, and many groups have participated in the discussions that have led to that. The fact that maybe you did not is through no fault of your own. You are a very busy man and you cannot be expected to attend all of the hearings of the Ag and Environment Committee or those hearings that deal with low-level radioactive waste. That is why we have an assignment of responsibilities. That is why we ask for the responsibility to be designated and we ask for recommendations from groups.

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