

that doesn't want a compact. That is not the issue here. The issue is whether or not we should say through resolution which according to Senator Schmit is binding that we will join the Central states and I am saying that we ought to allow, and that may in fact be the best decision, I mean I really do not know, but let me say this, as best as I can determine this is not a committee resolution, this is a resolution by Senator Schmit. As best as I can determine there have not been public hearings on a weighty decision to join a compact, which compact, et cetera. I am saying, fine, if we need to proceed and I doubt not that we need to proceed, and I do want to join a compact for the same reason Senator Goodrich indicates, but I don't think we ought to say we will join this compact or we ought to make that decision at this point in time without public hearings, without some understanding by the public, without a recognition by at least the Ag Committee and all the other folks that are involved in how that decision was arrived at. And that is all I am proposing here is to have a little more public input before we make a final decision as to which compact we join. Now I agree with Senator Schmit whose arguments were not everybody can understand everything and just because you don't understand, Dave, doesn't mean we can't proceed. I absolutely agree with that, Senator Schmit, but that is not what I am asking for. I am saying, let's indicate our intent. No question, we are indicating our intent with this resolution and then let's have public hearings. I am sure that Senator Schmit who has indicated that the Department intends to have public hearings would not oppose that, and so basically we are basically saying, yes, this is our intent. We are going to have public hearings. The public will have an opportunity to know but we have not made a final decision. Senator Schmit indicates we are going to have to make a final decision through legislative action anyways and so let's do it then as opposed to now. Let's not change if the change is needed or desired. This will not weaken the resolution. This will further clarify Senator Schmit's intent. With that in mind, and also signal to the public that we do encourage some public input on this very important issue, and I think we do encourage some public input on this very important issue. It is with this in mind that I urge this Legislature to look at the substance of my amendment and not at all the extraneous issues that have been brought up about whether to join a compact or not. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The question before the House is the adoption of the Newell amendment to LR 233. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Senator Newell, what do you want to do? Record the vote.