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responsibilities, as legislators, to ask those questions and get some black and white answers, because I suggest to you, if we don't, if we don't, six months from now, or a year from now, or two years from now, or however long this process drags on, and if we still don't have any response to what are we going to do about liability, and I'm, frankly, losing...I'm, frankly, losing patience with that process, because that has been documented, and documented, and documented that that's been a concern. We've got memos from us, memos from the Governor, studies from other states, and I just...I don't see those being taken on head-on. And, as I indicated earlier, I have no idea, as do any of you, what goes on in the compact meetings. I don't know how hard we're able to push, or what concessions we're able to get. But we're at a critical time as a state to extract concessions from other states. And I would suggest that if we don't do them right now, if we don't get right up front, you sure don't negotiate once the process has taken one more step. And I think we've been much too lax in demanding solid answers to hard questions. This is your last chance, folks. So, if you don't take the time to ask those questions now, if you don't take the chance to demand some answers, and I'm confident that Norm Thorson can bring us back many of those answers, but I really feel like this is the place that those have to be asked, and that somewhere a line has to be drawn. And, so I make this motion to give us an opportunity to demand those questions, and I'm convinced that the Natural Resources Committee could satisfy the concerns. And, if they can't, then we better go back a couple of squares further. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, please, followed by Senator Langford.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I'm concerned that my colleague, Senator McFarland, would say that he's not surprised at the vote and that we, apparently, have decided to proceed blindly. Senator McFarland, the committee has not proceeded blindly. We have spent hundreds of hours gathering testimony from individuals. Furthermore, for those who say the numbers oppose the confirmation of Dr. Thorson, let me tell you how simple it is if you just want to rely upon the numbers process. Any one of us could have brought in a hundred other persons. Number three, the committee listened to everyone who came before the committee, notwithstanding the untruths, the half-truths and the abuse heaped upon the committee members from time to time. I might add, there was some what I would call