

on behalf of the war. Rather than limiting free speech, they used more free speech and contradicted the argument. If you want to get at this problem, fly your flags proudly, make your claims, don't silence others.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Landis. We'll now go to Senator, oh, just one moment. I will introduce some guests of Senator Hefner first. We have a nephew of Senator Hefner's and his friend here. He is George Hefner and she is Denise Verges and they are from Chicago. They are under the north balcony. Would you please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thanks for being with us. The next speaker, Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I did join in this resolution with Senator Hefner and others and I am pleased to support it. I actually don't...I reread it a few minutes ago. I don't see anything in there about punishing people, but maybe I'm not reading between the lines. Two hundred and fifteen years ago when we became a nation, a country, since then we have developed into a unique country. There are a couple of others that parallel, but no matter where we come from, Irish, English, Asians, Germans, Europeans, we are all, when we come here, grow up here, we're Americans. Most of us, even though we respect our roots and like to know about our ancestors and where we come from and why we're here and so on, we are all Americans and we feel like we are Americans. The symbol of the flag, according to the legend of Betsy Ross, the 13 stripes are for the 13 original colonies, the 50 stars, one for each state. It's a perfect design for a country like ours. It has the symbol of what we are, the states and the colonies that started us. Actually, all we're asking here is respect for the flag. Burning of the flag or climbing up on a pole and dragging it down and so on, for me, is a symbol or a signal of anarchy or a coup d'etat in a country. So, for that reason, I think that we need to put this in the context that it is brought to us, that it is respect for the symbol of our country. So I will continue to support it and for those of you who perhaps laugh at those people in the funny little hats and the uniforms, that's all right. Go ahead. But if you don't want to serve your country, don't do it in the way that they did and have done and continue to do, but don't ridicule them for it. So I will support the resolution. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Coordsen.