

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too, rise to support the resolution and bear in mind that it is a resolution calling upon Congress to begin the process of enacting a constitutional amendment which, in fact, would then have to be sent back out to the states to be ratified. Many of the arguments that have been made this afternoon would be quite proper, I think, in the discussion as to whether the State of Nebraska wanted to ratify whatever the language of the proposed constitutional amendment might be at that particular time. I'm aware, I think, as all of us are, of the arguments of details, whether or not a facsimile of an American flag in an advertisement for deep freezes is somehow degrading the flag. I think it's something that quite probably would not happen. The flag could be... Senator Crosby mentioned the 13 stripes and the three colors and the 50 stars and all of those things that make it up, but the flag was created by an Act of Congress as a symbol of what this country stands for. It could just as well be a round circle. Flags go back into the prerecorded history times to indicate our side or their side to identify friendly folks. I think that at this point in time when we are encouraging or looking at the possibility of encouraging Congress to enact a constitutional amendment to create a system of perhaps protecting, perhaps not, protecting a piece of cloth we lose ourself a little bit in the details of the argument. I think most of our folks, if we believe in representative government, might well feel that the symbol of our nation, whatever particular color, shape or stripes or stars or bars or hammers or cycles or whatever is on that, has a special meaning to them and there is a danger in the desecration of a flag of whatever that country. I remember many years ago having to participate in training for riot control and when you play upon the emotions of people, there is always a danger of some type yet undefined in that. So with those few brief comments, I think that the possibility exists quite well that we could serve our constituencies by indicating that we feel that the symbol of what our country stands for is somehow more valuable than just the physical presence of that particular piece of cloth or plastic or paper or whatever it is made of. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. We'll now go to Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body, I was one of four members on the Government Committee who