

did not vote to advance this bill. The vote was split 4-4, and there was some very thoughtful discussion. I think this is a meaningful discussion that we're having here today but, in a sense, I think it's rather a piece of fluff, if you will. This is a resolution only. It does not call for a constitutional convention by which we could enact a resolution to this effect. It has no power to force Congress to write a constitutional amendment which could then be sent back out to the states. It really isn't a very meaningful resolution in that respect because it has no teeth, it has no power. So what if 45 states pass such a resolution? Congress doesn't have to act on that. I don't think Congress will act on that. I think a lot of the steam has gone out of the push since President Bush, about a year or so ago, about a year ago I believe it was, asked that we do something and enact a constitutional amendment. You don't hear much about that anymore. I really think that in some ways if it weren't that I thought the discussion was meaningful in other ways, I think we're wasting our time standing here talking about it because I don't think anything will happen even if we do pass this resolution. One of the other reasons that I...one of the other problems I guess I had with this resolution was that there is no clear definition of desecration and I question whether we can really come up with an apt definition that will fit all circumstances. I was out at the shopping mall just recently and a little notice in the store window a little place called Thingsville. There were flags of every kind of description pasted on every kind of an object you can imagine, flying from everywhere. There were the kite kind of flags that are in a kind of a round circle, wind funnels or, what do you call them? Wind socks, that pick up the wind, that were made out of flag symbols, red, whites and blues and stripes and stars. I've seen flags on the rear end of boxer shorts. I've seen flags on cups. I've seen flags on just about anything that you can think of. Isn't that desecration of the flag? To my mind, it is. How are you going to limit every kind of desecration and how are you going to come up with the apt definition of desecration? Senator Crosby mentioned respect for the flag. Respect has to be earned. It can't be mandated, it can't be ordered. You know that, Senator Crosby. If you've had any children to raise, you know you can't have their respect unless you've earned it. You can't order them to respect you. I have a lot of problems with the whole philosophy underlying this particular resolution but the last question I would ask you is, why now? I mean, I haven't even read about any flag burning since we learned about that court case. Why didn't we have a