

Wesely amendment, Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I just decided to indicate why I'm going to vote no because this one concept in here was in some other amendment the other day that the portion that a nomination to be valid needs to be signed by 15 members of the Legislature. I can't imagine that is not blatantly unconstitutional under separation of powers. And even if it isn't, the Legislature has, under the amendment, all the input that would seem logical which would be the final approval or rejection. But I think the whole concept of individual members of the Legislature by having a condition where in effect you have a veto over an executive function of government as to whether even they could consider an application is not good public policy. Other than that I don't have a problem, but I think that is not good public policy.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Next speaker, Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, I would just rise to also oppose this amendment, not only for the very good reasons that Senator Warner has given, but the fact that its certainly not necessary. If any member of this Legislature wants to introduce a bill to do certain things with certain streams, that's within his or her prerogative and it certainly is not necessary. I think it does hamper some of the action of other bodies because you can kick it back and forth and say, well, we're going to duck the responsibility because somebody else could have done it.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Lamb. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I'm very supportive of the Wesely amendment and I'm supportive because there is a big hole and gap in the Conway amendment in this particular aspect. The Conway amendment, when you look at it, basically indicates that the Natural Resources Commission may designate some river area a scenic river area, but it says nothing whatsoever about the process. Who can initiate the process? Can one citizen initiate the process? Can a group of citizens initiate the process? There is nothing in there that requires the Natural Resources Commission to react in any way to anybody's request. So you could have a statewide petition with several thousand signatures on it and there would be no