

if I have to say it for the rest of the session and we have to be here to say it because I don't want this to happen is, and this comes from an article in the Omaha World-Herald dated Saturday, February 11. The headline is, "States Plan Conference to Press for Power", and this is a quote from Governor Nelson. It says, "One of the main recommendations to be considered would be a constitutional amendment permitting three-fourths of the states to initiate proposals to change the Constitution. Initiating a constitutional amendment now requires two-thirds vote of Congress and ratification by three-quarters of the legislatures. The only other method for proposing amendments is for the legislatures of two-thirds of the states to petition Congress to call a national constitutional convention." So you don't even need three-quarters of the states. You only need two-thirds of the states. So they're going to have more than they need to petition Congress with if they get there and, "Nelson said another plan aimed at restoring power to the states would allow a vote of two-thirds of the state legislatures to repeal a federal law. This would be used more as a threat if Congress failed to act on its own." So make no mistake, this whole, the whole purpose of calling for this Conference of the States has been hatched by individuals who intend to try to streamline the process that we now have in place to amend the Constitution of the United States. This is a huge change. This proposal should be debated as thoroughly as any proposal that has ever been brought before the Legislature in the State of Nebraska, and for it to have had a hearing in front of the Executive Board, to be in the form of a resolution and not have opportunity for debate, more opportunities for debate, to me is wrong. To not have a fiscal note to let us know some more information on the cost and the fiscal notes are usually very short and explanatory and helpful, we don't have that here. All we have here is a proposal that received very little public fanfare at its inception, and when you start looking into the ramifications and what they're calling for and what these individuals who are asking for this are saying to the press and to the Council of State Government's magazine and all these other people and in all these states, Utah, Mike Leavitt passed this thing, rammed it through in Utah and now that guy is...they're having tons of problems over there with the people over there in Utah. They're having fights left and right out there in Utah because this thing has already passed through their Legislature. They are furious with it. There are several other states that now that they're taking a second look at this thing, there are a lot of people who are working people like my