

done through my amendment. I'm comfortable doing it. Is Senator Witek's amendments wrong? No. By standing up and speaking against them, does that mean that there is going to be a constitutional convention? Absolutely not. I certainly wouldn't want this Legislature to be involved in that activity. I wouldn't want this state involved in that activity, unless there are some other facts that I sure don't know about. I just think that this is probably something that I can't support. If others feel inclined 'o do so, that's fine. I don't know that it harms the resolution all that much. But I certainly think that if the intent, and I want to listen to Senator Witek's next speech because I'd like you, Senator Witek, to address if, through your amendment is it your intent that the people who participate in the Conference of the States could not vote for an action plan that included such things as constitutional amendments and so on? I don't read that in here, but I want to know what the intent was. And with that, I'm personally not going to vote for this and would be anxious to hear what Senator Witek's response is for her intent in terms of constitutional amendments on this particular amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, again I'm going to say that this has been a tremendous learning experience for me and I think it's made me a better legislator. So I'm going to share some of the things that I've learned. One of the books that was given to me by a constituent here in the State of Nebraska, not in my district but in another district, on the Constitution to help me, it's a cowboy who knows the Constitution real well and came into one of our committees and gave this to me to help me. And when I...when I started looking into the...looking for answers on this resolution, I came to some of the explanation for Article V in the Constitution. It states, this Constitution can be amended by approval of two-thirds of the House and Senate, and three-fourths of the state legislators or state conventions. Under their divided system of state and federal governments, the people had two sets of representatives, state and federal, each independent of the other. They, therefore, provided for the amending of the Constitution through either of these bodies who serve as stewards of the people. The first method is described in the above clause, and that was on Congress. It required that any proposed amendment be approved by two-thirds of the House and two-thirds of the Senate. It then goes, without requiring the