

opposing some of the amendments, Senator Chambers. I think you're discussing the issues, I will admit, and expanding on that, and that is interesting. But I think that it's appropriate for us to move on, oppose this amendment, try to maybe find some that really are needed here. But I think that we ought to move on with the resolution generally in its present form.

SPEAKER WITHTEM: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. I would inform the membership, particularly Senator Kristensen needs to be aware, Rule 4, Section 5 requires that resolutions only have the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present, with the exception that an individual senator may request that prior to the commencement of a vote that a resolution shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of the elected members. We have had that request, so henceforth when we get to an ultimate vote on this, this resolution will require 25 votes. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. And, Mr. Speaker, I would have also requested to do that. I don't think that an amendment like this or a resolution like this should pass without a majority of those voting. So I...I...I don't know who made that request, but I think that that's a good one to do so. Senator Chambers, there has been several people in and out of the Chamber this morning, and I just want to make sure that we try to define for them where people are at, why I'm opposing this amendment. The last amendment I rose reluctantly upon and opposed, but I think that it was probably fine it was not adopted. This one I do think would be very difficult for the Legislature, this Legislature to deal with. Unlike Senator Chambers, I don't think the federal government has got the grasp of the big picture either. I think they have a grasp of a very possessive view of what they want to do and that they know better for us in Nebraska than Nebraskans know. Do Nebraskans have the big view on a lot of issues? I can't tell you if they do either, but I can tell you that I do think that this Legislature, in particular, has a lot of grasp of what is good for our citizens on a number of issues. A number of those issues have been taken away from us and, unfortunately, that discussion needs to occur, just as it occurs right now on the floor of the Legislature between individuals who have different points of view, different philosophies, that discussion needs to occur also in the national level. And the only mechanism that I am aware of, or the one that I am the most comfortable with is