

bit if the objective of these people is to set up a permanent process to make a truly historic change and set up a permanent mechanism whereby the states have an opportunity to devise constitutional amendments in an efficient kind of way, if we are going to do that, if that is what we are about, then it seems to me that we ought to, as a first step, be sure that the underlying structure, the nonprofit corporation, the conferences themselves, as they will play out, are organized and structured in a way that is democratic and is fair and acceptable to the State of Nebraska. There has been no talk, so far, about the steering committee, how it got a steering committee, who is on the steering committee. You know, our Governor is on the steering committee this year. That is very reassuring, but if a permanent structure is set up that doesn't ensure that, then we ought to be sure we know what that permanent structure is. And I would suggest to you that that's really the first step and that you ought to think real carefully about that because this is convention politics that we are setting up here, and I don't know how many of you all have been to conventions where matters are decided by large numbers on the floor, but I've had a little experience with it, and not all of it has been good because the first thing you discover, with a group that large, is that he or she who controls the convention, he or she who controls the people on the platform committee, he or she who controls how much time there is to speak on the floor and who is chosen to speak and for how long and on what matters controls much of what is done at a convention. And so, therefore, the way it is structured, the rules of procedure, the bylaws, and this nonprofit corporation, all these things are extremely important and should be decided in the first instance. This amendment, all that it says is that the Nebraska delegation chosen pursuant to this resolution shall present to the Executive Board of the Legislative Council...

SENATOR HALL PRESIDING

SENATOR HALL. One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...prior to participation in the conference for the review and suggestions of the Executive Board the most current draft of the proposed conference rules of procedure and by laws including any proposed articles of incorporation or proposed bylaws of any nonprofit corporation to be authorized by such conference if available. The Executive Board may further instruct the Nebraska delegates with respect to conditions for