

Witek's amendment is premature at this point. I would vote to oppose it and I would hope the rest of the Legislature would do so, and I want to take a look at Senator Withem's amendment and see if that's something that I can live with. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute. Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Chambers, on the Witek amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, Senator Witek's amendment doesn't say they cannot discuss these things. Her amendment does not take anything off the table in terms of discussing. It talks about proposing it in the form of an amendment to the Constitution, and I agree with that. To try to finish what I was talking about when I first spoke, at least for the record, when you create a legal entity, which is what this is going to be, a free-standing legal entity, it is going to take on a life of its own. Pronouncements will be made, press conferences will be held, press releases will be issued, and the public are not careful readers, and it will be easy to appear that this organization was brought together for the purpose of offering these amendments to the Constitution which the Convention of States adopted, or The Conference of States adopted. They will go back to the states. In some of this documentary material that we received about this conference, there is discussion about supermajorities being required in the various legislatures to do one thing and another. But in the resolution itself...Senator Pirsch is allergic to my discussion, so you all leave her alone. Bless you, Senator Pirsch. This is more serious than just a gathering of miscellaneous senators sitting down and beating their gums. If that's all it were to be, Senator Witek's amendment would not cause anybody consternation, nor would any other amendment that we add to this resolution. Everybody could say, well, since we can talk about anything we want to anyway, and our purpose is not to propose amendments to the Constitution, we'll accept this one. And if somebody says they don't want to amend away any provision of the Bill of Rights, we'll put that in also. And we'll put in everything necessary to reassure the members of this Legislature, the members who are being asked to vote in favor of this resolution, we will put whatever it takes to reassure them and they will know that if they vote for this resolution they are not voting to authorize any specific proposals to amend the Constitution. Senator Kristensen does not want any amendments to this resolution that are specific in nature. Senator Witek and I don't want any specific proposals coming out of that