

out the other day with Senator Kristensen's amendment. This adds a new one, basically, indicating that despite the fact that we experience frustrations from time to time, the current configuration of the Constitution of the United States has served the Republic well for over two hundred years, and any attempts to formally amend the constitutional relationship between the states and the federal government should only occur after careful consideration and a strong consensus has been established. That's merely another whereas clause. The second thing it does is it petitions, on behalf of the Nebraska Legislature, the committee establishing the rules for The Conference of the States indicating that we want a provision within the rules treating amendments to the U.S. Constitution differently than it treats other measures. Nebraska Legislature supports the provision within the rules governing the deliberations of The Conference of the States. The third thing it would do it would require that any proposed changes to the United States Constitution, before they could be included in the action plan, there must be a separate vote on that measure. The next thing it would indicate is that a proposed constitutional amendment must receive at least a two-thirds affirmative vote of those states attending the conference, and that those states supporting a proposed constitutional amendment must represent at least a majority of all states. Senator Chambers, I think this gets into your questions earlier. If we were to assume that only 30 of the 50 states were to propose this, 20 of those would have to vote, actually, 25 of...26 of those 30 states would have to support this proposed constitutional amendment before it could be considered within an action plan. What we'd be doing by adopting this, we would, in addition to supporting The Conference of the States, we would be sending this on to the group that is making the rules for the conference and suggest that they include that within the rules of The Conference of the States, and, further, I think that with that delegation of seven individuals from our state would be aware that the Nebraska Legislature would be petitioning the rules process of this convention to contain these procedures...provisions. I offer this because I, like Senator Wesely, who was at this Leader to Leader Conference last week in Nebraska, I did become more concerned about the attempts to modify the United States Constitution, and I have further concerns than I had prior to that meeting. The arguments made by Senator Chambers and Senator Witek have had some impact on me, and I think that for this conference to even propose these constitutional amendments, even at the beginning representing, recognizing, and reminding