

questions, if you would yield please.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The current position of our government of the United States, in regard to the recognition of Taiwan to the United Nations is what?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I don't know the exact recognition. We recognize them in some way, I can't tell you the exact status (inaudible).

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Do we have full diplomatic relations with Taiwan, and full, in regards do we recognize them as an independent country?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I think we do but I am not positive.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Could it be that...could it be that we have, I think it is what they call a step under full, it's a...the word has escaped me but it is a level under full recognition as a country, but we still have the exchange of ambassadors. It still would be a presence on...are you certain we don't have that relationship?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That sounds appropriate. As I said, I don't know what exact level it is.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay. Do you know what...what the Republic or the country of Taiwan or the Republic of Taiwan, what they have stated as what their...what they would have to have as far as recognition before they would accept even a seat at the United Nations table?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No, I do not.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay. What...I guess what I am getting at is there are a lot of things that we don't know. We don't know what our position of our own government is in this matter. We don't know even what Taiwan's position is, what they are asking for in regards to whether or not they represent the mainland of China or not, and, Senator Wehrbein, I guess the last question I'd like to ask, would you be agreeable, we could either do it by unanimous consent, or we could do it by motion, but would you be agreeable to referring this resolution to the