

others, and one of the reasons is, as Senator Wehrbein, I think, knows and some others, I had a chance through the Executive Committee of NCSL to travel to Taiwan to, I think it was last year, to discuss some concerns and to learn more about their country, and I think the wording, again, Senator Wehrbein's point about the wording is critical here. If this had said that the United States should give support to Taiwan for these various needs, like international community in terms of the United Nations, whatever, if we said absolutely that that should be the position, I guess, you know this is an area that we are not experts and we ought to leave to the work of Congress and the President, but, at the same time, all this says is due consideration, and I don't see where we hurt anything by saying that they should give consideration to Taiwan. To say absolutely that whatever action should be taken, we are not in a position to know. I think that both Senator Beutler and Senator Chambers and others, have made good points about the fact that we have to be sensitive to the balancing of interests between Taiwan and mainland China, that China has great potential for us, and I know that the Governor has been over there, has opened up some business opportunities. We have good trade relations with Taiwan. I am a bit concerned that we don't jeopardize the opportunities we've had with mainland China to open up trade. Again, my response to whatever concerns they might express is that this resolution talks about consideration being given to Taiwan, but it is a sensitive matter. There is no doubt about it, and this is one of those issues where if you are my enemy's friend you are my enemy, and you have to be very cautious about who, exactly, you become friends with and who you make enemies as a result of that. But, in any event, I am comfortable because of the language of the bill, but I also understand the concerns that are being expressed and, perhaps, you know, perhaps a committee review of this might be in order, but because of the language, again as Senator Wehrbein said, I just don't see where we have the negative consequences that people are talking about that should worry us enough to take any more time with the resolution. So I rise in support of the resolution, oppose its referral to committee.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, if the body is insistent on dealing with this this morning, it doesn't make me any difference, and I have some amendments that I am going to offer too, and I am preparing one of them now.