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PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Beutler, your light is on but I believe you have spoken three times already. Senator...Chair recognizes Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, I'd yield my time to Senator Beutler.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Clerk, members of the Legislature, let me try to explain why I strenuously disagree with Senator Landis, and I invite him to respond on the basis of the document, because this is a complicated matter and I don't pretend that my understanding of it couldn't be improved considerably. But here's what I'm talking about. If you look on page 47 of this document, it's Article IX, amendments and interpretations, and I think...I don't think the document has ever been passed out to you so I don't know. I'm sorry that you have no basis other than my reading it to you as to what it is you're authorizing these representatives to do. But it says, this Article or Section 901 says amendments to the agreement may be brought before the governing board by a member state. The agreement may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the governing board. The governing board shall give public notice of proposed amendments at least 60 days ahead of time, that's what I was talking about, and it provides an opportunity for public comment. Okay, so there is clearly the governing board's authority to change anything in this agreement. Now, if you flip back to page 23 of the agreement, for example, just as one example, you will see it deals with the enactment of exemptions and it says that a member of a state may enact a product-based exemption without restriction if it doesn't have...if the product doesn't have a definition, and then it goes on to talk about entity-based and use-based exemptions. It deals with exemptions in details, and which kinds you can, as a state, enact and which kinds you cannot. Now, if you put together the power under Article IX, Section 901, for the governing board, then to change the enactment of exemptions section on page 23, you're getting to what I'm talking about. They can get together, the representatives from this body and the other bodies, and change Section 23...change Section 316 on page 23 which deals with