

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I also have not spoken on this issue previously. I have listened with great interest and concern and recognize the deep concern of all of you. Certainly the Commonwealth Committee recognize the overwhelming responsibility that rides with each of us. It is the first time and hopefully the last time that any of us will need to address this type of a decision. I am going to vote in support of the resolution of the committee as amended by Senator Warner. I think it does afford the Attorney General the opportunity to defend himself. I believe that is most important. I want to raise one other point at this time. As I recall, when the Commonwealth Committee was formed we called it the special committee on Commonwealth. It was not a committee on the Attorney General or the acts of the Attorney General or the impropriety of any acts of the Attorney General. It was a committee that was formed in order to determine why Commonwealth failed and how this committee could properly address that problem, resolve the situation that faced the depositors of Commonwealth, hopefully in some manner or other, make the depositors of Commonwealth whole and then last and, of course, most important, to prevent its reoccurrence. I have said many times that the Miller-Domina report raised more questions than it answered. I noticed that some of my colleagues this afternoon spoke from prepared text and I considered whether or not I should do that also because of the importance of what we are doing here today. I chose not to do so. I just speak extemporaneously. What I do choose to do now is to read from the Miller-Domina report and try to emphasize to this Legislature and to the public that what we do here today as it impacts upon the Attorney General will, of course, most dramatically impact upon Mr. Douglas and his life and his future. But it is only if we pursue and proceed from this point, and Mr. Johnson, Senator Johnson, our Chairman, has emphasized this time and time and again. Will the Commonwealth Committee fulfill its responsibility and in private discussions with many of you and particularly with Senator DeCamp and Senator Chambers, this has always