

studies, that deal with just general action by the Legislature, and if you will look through that Rule 4, I think you'll see there is a distinction. And the fact that we specifically say that constitutional amendments shall be handled differently is enough indication to me that you should not lower your standards and your rules to apply to those the same as you would just to general resolution that really has no binding effect on the state. Let us consider if we would consider all resolutions the same. If all resolutions are the same, how could you compare the resolutions praising the Nebraska Wesleyan basketball team to a resolution repealing Initiative 300? There is no comparison whatsoever and my sense is that this Legislature in adopting these rules wanted to make it clear that that standard for bills, in terms of going through three phases of debate, and going the different procedures, was put in place to have a standard at least as high for constitutional amendments as it was for legislative bills. Probably we ought to have higher standards. Constitutional amendments are much more significant because of the long term impacts and I think that's one of the reasons that we require 30 votes on passage of those amendments, but nevertheless, my sense is that Rule 4, Section 9 does not apply to a resolution dealing with constitutional amendments, but that in fact, Rule 4, Section 2 does and if you read that you'll understand that it will require 30 votes to lift out of committee after killing the bill in the committee.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I pushed my light before you called on Senator Wesely. I didn't realize he was going to, but I rise to basically say the same things that Senator Wesely did. I think it is very clear when you read the rule regardless of how you feel on this particular issue. I think we ought to be consistent under our rules, and as Senator Wesely just pointed out to you, a constitutional amendment treated as a resolution under Section 2 of Rule 4, it's very clear that it shall be considered and adopted in the same manner as bills and it seems rather strange to me that we would, under a ruling of the Chair, follow Rule 9 of that same section which says that it only takes a majority of those voting to pull a resolution from a committee after it has been killed when back on Section 17, Rule 3 it takes more than that for a bill. At the same time we've got to recognize that a