

have spoken I think through opinion polls and have through the petition process and I think the other materials I have sent out would indicate that the majority of Nebraskans do support this freeze. I think it is time the Legislature reflected that majority opinion and voted for a freeze resolution to go on record in support of this position. Now we are calling for in this resolution something that I think is not going to be offensive hopefully to very many of you. What we call for is that negotiations now going on in Geneva would attempt to reach through negotiation a freeze bilateral and verifiable between the United States and the Soviet Union on the development, testing and production and deployment of nuclear weapons. What we are attempting to do here is not to say a unilateral freeze is in order, not to say that we absolutely want to go to a freeze. We are saying, please negotiate a freeze. There is nothing really I think to be lost by attempting to negotiate this concept with the Russians. If we were really adamant, we could say we ought to just go to a freeze and that is it and try to ram something down the throats of the public. But we are not saying that. We are saying, this is the concept that ought to be negotiated as you are in Geneva. We are supporting those talks. We are glad the President is pursuing them. We are suggesting that another item be placed on the agenda that hasn't been placed there and I see no harm in suggesting that our government reflect the will of the people in attempting to do this. If failure results, then at least the attempt was made and I think that is very important. Now the big argument against the concept of a freeze has been, you can't trust the Russians. You come to a point where you reach a treaty with the Russians and how can you trust these people, this evil empire to uphold the treaty. You know, my argument to that concept that we can't trust the Russians is, all right, I will agree with you. I probably don't feel anymore trusting of the Russians than you do but the question before us is not do you trust them with a treaty but do you trust them today with the arsenal of nuclear weapons that they have which can blow up the face of the earth? You have an exchange now in leadership over the past two years that is hard to tell who is in charge in Russian anymore. Gorbachev is there now but how long will he last? We have had three others recently come and go as leaders in that country. At some point you are going to find leadership there that isn't going to be willing to be rational. You know, if they are so bad and so concerning to us and I think they are, who knows what may happen in the