

SENATOR DECAMP: If you think that's good and right, I suppose you should do it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hoagland. The question has been called. The Chair would pass by that on its prerogative to ignore that because of a limited number of speakers left at the time. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I just rise to support Senator Beutler's motion, not only the portion that changes the 8.5 million, but also the balance of his motion. I would like to comment because some comments have been made that the resolution previously passed somehow or other was for less than 20.5 million. As I recall there were amendments offered for smaller amounts that were rejected. I think it was very clear that the 20.5 was, and did represent an amount that was in the resolution which was to include both types of claims and I think it's appropriate that the body supports Senator Beutler's amendment to the committee amendment. As a matter of fact if for no other reason it gets us back to where we should have been to start with.

PRESIDENT: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I'm going to rise to support the amendment and I'm going to let you know my reasons for supporting the amendment. I find this to be one of my more difficult votes in my seven years here. Back in January Governor Kerrey spoke to me about resolving the Commonwealth claim. When he spoke to me he spoke with me in the presence of Morris Miller who he had retained to provide assistance in the ultimate workout of the Commonwealth problem. He said to me that it was necessary for the Legislature to appropriate \$20.5 million. It was necessary for there to be a court test of that appropriation. He said to me that with respect to the taxes that were existing on Commonwealth property, the Lancaster County and the City of Lincoln taxes, that in terms of the ultimate workout those taxes would either be totally vitiated or in the alternative, subordinated to the claims of depositors. Those are the kinds of representations made. Now having been intimately involved with the Commonwealth matter I knew to the bottom of my heart that an appropriation in excess of \$8.5 million to settle the Commonwealth claim went beyond what I thought the limits of