

PRESIDENT: Speaking on the Johnson amendment, Senator Schmit, do you have...your light was on from the past, I guess. Senator Withem. Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise in support of the resolution. This resolution is a little bit different than an interim study resolution, and was the principal reason I believe that it was pulled from that pile of interim studies, because it is special. But talking and speaking to the proposed amendment that Senator Johnson is offering, I assume on behalf of the Governor, I have some reluctance to accepting that on the basis that we have private people in Nebraska that would have input into that decision making that may be considered to be biased in their analysis, and in their judgements. I would prefer, as far as I am personally concerned, to keep it within the legislative branch, and go from there. We did start, four or five years ago, with Mr. Wortman from over at Storm Lake, Iowa, on a very similar study, but failed to be able to follow through. Some of the very basic things are on record and in the Research counsel's files that can be utilized and should be, and probably will be, but it needs to go much, much further. I know that the spending of money, at this time, is not all that desirable. But I think we are talking about the future of Nebraska, and the future of Nebraskans and their responsibility to support government and its funding. But I hope you think seriously about the amendment, whether you want a complete, unbiased reporting of it, or whether you want some residential judgements in it. As the old saying goes, you get 50 miles away from home you are an expert, and that may be applicable at this point. Those are my views, but I do support the resolution in its philosophy. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: On the Vard Johnson amendment to the resolution, Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members, I rise to support the amendment. But the...excuse me. I rise to support the resolution, but I oppose the amendment. Senator Johnson, if you would yield to a question.

PRESIDENT: Senator Johnson is available.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.