

SPEAKER NICHOL PRESIDING

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rupp, please.

SENATOR RUPP: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise to support Senator McFarland. I think it is a good idea. It was my idea to refer it to the Executive Board in the first place. The responsibility for such things as this lie with the Executive Board. The whole reason this all arose was because of the putting up of the new voting boards. That decision was made by the Executive Board. We don't discuss things like this out on the floor, whether we'll have a new PA system, or buy new waste baskets, or whatever. I think the responsibilities lie with the Exec Board. I think we should leave it there. I think the stage upon which this issue can be resolved can be a much smaller one than this. I would urge you support the motion. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, please.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, my entire opening, and I said my entire debate on the subject amounted to, I think, 37 seconds. We've now spent about eight times that much debating whether we should even vote on it, whether we should have special hearings. I guess I thought it was a pretty simple issue. There has been some question as to whether the portraits of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln should hang in this Legislative Chamber. Rather than discuss the merits of the individuals, or try to delve into the controversy or the confusions, or accurate or false statements made in newspapers on the subject, I simply wanted to affirm, to clear up everything very simply that this Legislature supports, based upon their political achievements, the portraits of those two individuals being in this Legislative Chamber. And I concluded by saying the resolution, itself, was self-explanatory. It just says these are very noted presidents, one who forged the country, one who saved the country, and we honor them based on their political accomplishments, based on those achievements, not their personal record, by placing their portraits in this Chamber. I would submit that we ought to have a vote on it. Senator McFarland may well have the votes to refer it to committee. But I'm not sure that that is the wise thing. I think you ought to vote on it and say whether they should or shouldn't be out here. I have no debate. The resolution is self-explanatory.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Cal Carsten.