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information. I certainly want to support this bill because I feel that our National Guardsmen are very important to our defense. In fact, I consider them our first line of defense and we have many of them serving over in the Middle East, so I think it is only right and appropriate that we do this. On the second part on the POW/MIA flags, I think it's very important that we allow those people that want them to fly them, to fly them and also set out some guidelines that we would like to have them follow. And so I'm certainly going to support this bill as amended.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. I'll now recognize Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Madam President. Members of the body, I, too, support this legislation, but I...and Senator Hefner asked some of the questions I wanted to ask, but I have another one I'd like to ask Senator Conway, please.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Conway.

SENATOR CONWAY: Yes.

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Conway, I think I read something the other day, but maybe you know about this. Does the American Legion, have they expanded their membership now to include the veterans of this war? Do you know that?

SENATOR CONWAY: The dates for this war have not been identified by the federal government yet. We're still waiting for it. That was one of the things that this bill possibly would have got up on later level debate if they declare, would be a good bill to amend that in so we'd know what those dates are for this new category of people, but as of this date, the last I've been informed, we have not been notified of what that formal starting date is so we don't...no one is in there. Now the American Legion, they've expanded their membership in several ways, the VFW being a bit different in terms of what qualifies you to membership in the VFW. The American Legion, by being a family member of someone who has served, I believe makes you eligible in a lot of categories.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Dierks. I'll now recognize