

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

4022

2007 SENATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SCR 4022

## 2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. SCR 4022

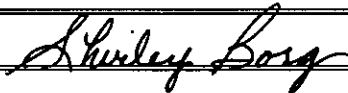
Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: **February 22, 2007**

Recorder Job Number: **3704 and 3716 (Action)**

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

**Chairman Cook** called the committee to order. All members (5) present.

**Chairman Cook** opened the hearing on SCR 4022, a concurrent resolution urging Congress and the President to pursue peace in Iraq and disengage American combat forces from Iraq duty.

**Senator Mathern**, District 11, Fargo, ND introduced SCR 4022. (See attachment #1)

**Chairman Cook** : When I look at this resolution two questions come to mind. First, do we play a role in sending a message to the commander in chief and congress? Second, if we do, what should this resolution say?

**Senator Mathern**: On that issue our state on a per capita basis has I believe either the top or close to the top number of persons serving in Iraq over and above any other state in the union, so our citizens and soldiers are represented there more that any other state.

**Karen Van Fossan**, appeared on behalf of 650 members and volunteers of the ND Peace Coalition in support of SCR 4022. (See attachment #2 A & B)

**Paul Dwyer**, testified in support of SCR 4022. (See attachment # 3)

**Chuck Suchy**, Morton County, Mandan, ND, testified in support of SCR 4022. (See attachment #4)

**Chris Alexander**, Pastor Faith Lutheran Church,, Bismarck ND testified in support of SCR 4022. (See attachment # 5)

**Vinod Seth**, ND physician testified in support of SCR 4022. (Attachment # 6)

**Lewis Lubka**, District 11 resident, testified in support of SCR 4022. (Attachment #7)

**Dr. Herbert Wilson** testified in support of SCR 4022 (Attachment # 8)

**Rev. James Moos** testified in support of SCR 4022 (Attachment #9)

Testimony opposed.

**Dave Spryncznatyk**, Adjutant General, State of North Dakota, testified in opposition of SCR 4022 as it is written because of the message that it sends to our troops, both those that have served in Iraq and have returned as well as those that are there today. The concern that I have is that we are a nation at war, I pray everyday for peace and for the safe return of all our soldiers and men and women in the military. The fact is that I think it is important that we recognize that our Commander in Chief has made a decision and that we do have troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and I think we need to send a message of support for those troops at the same time we ask for peace. As I have read through this resolution, the sense that I get is that many of our soldiers will read it and wonder about what it is that they have served for and what it is that they have done for our country and whether or not its been a waste. I have a concern for those families that we have to face who still have soldiers in Iraq today. I have put some thoughts into an amendment that you might consider. (Attachment # 10)

**Chairman Cook** when I looked at this and I seen the request for the urge for peace. Isn't that is what the men and women are fighting for, just that peace.

**Dave:** That is absolutely correct; none of us in the military would want anything but peace. You talk to soldiers and they will tell you we are there for the right reasons and that we are trying to restore peace to a country that has been at war for years.

**Representative Wes Belter** appeared in opposition of SCR 4022. The price of peace is always heavy. We all are interested in preserving peace. I am sure that is on the front burner of our president. It is wonderful to live in a country where we can debate openly and freely like we do and that freedom has only come about by great human cost. I think one thing that we need to take into consideration is that Iraq was ruled by terrene, rape, death and torture. That is how Saddam Hussein kept his power. If the US and the free world are to leave Iraq, we also need to bare the consequences and be responsible for all that will happen. We removing ourselves from Iraq will not bring peace. I think we need to send a resolution to support our troops.

**John Jacobsen**, Colonel AUS testified in opposition to SCR 4022. (See attachment #11)

**Jake Gotta**, testified in opposition. (See attachment #12)

**Hal Neff**, testified in opposition to SCR 4022 (See attachment # 13)

**Robert Dilly**, Retired Air Force Member, testified in opposition of SCR 4022. We need to stand together as a nation. There are people in Iraq who are benefiting from our presence there. No military person wants war but we need to let them do their job and let State Government stay out of there.

**Fred Jordon** testified in opposition of SCR 4022.

Testimony in Support of SCR 4022.

**Don Morrison**, Executive Director of ND People Org., testified in support. (See attachment # 14)

**Helen Ruby** testified in support of SCR 4022

**Cameron White** testified in support. (Attachment # 15)

**Janet Kelly Moen** in support (Attachment #16)

Testimony passed out (attachment #17)

No further testimony in support, opposed or neutral.

**Chairman Cook** closed the hearing on SCR 4022.

February 22, 2007 Recorder # 3716 (action)

**Chairman Cook** asked the committee to discuss SCR 4022. He shared with the committee his thoughts, He asked two questions; the first question in his mind was is this the appropriate place to have this discussion and is it appropriate for this legislature to be communicating in any form regarding a policy such as this. The second question is if we do what does it say? It is my belief that this is not a place for this discussion to take place. If it is not the committees desire to give it a Do Not Pass then I think we need to change what it says so it is less offensive.

**Senator Warner:** I won't be here Friday. I had Chris integrate the Sprynczynatyk amendments. It doesn't say much of anything so thought it might be appropriate to supplement the language.

**Senator Anderson;** I jotted down a couple of things. There is no question about it you want to show your support and in my case I want to say that the citizens of North Dakota are concerned about getting our troops back. I wrote down another Whereas. Whereas a successful conclusion of their efforts is desired in order to bring our troops back with honor and appreciation of our citizens. It doesn't say much.

**Senator Olafson:** I ask whether this is an issue that the legislature of North Dakota should be engaging in an effort to influence foreign policy. In my opinion we ought not to do that. If we are going to do that I don't like the language as purposed. The amendments make it far more palatable to me.

**Chairman Cook:** Senator Anderson and Senator Warner, do you think it is important to send a message on this issue?

**Senator Warner:** I would like to send a message of support to the troops.

**Senator Anderson:** That is what I am trying to say, that we desire a successful conclusion but doesn't say bring them away.

**Senator Anderson** moved the amendment.

**Senator Warner** seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Voice Vote: All 5 members in favor.

**Senator Hacker** proposed a second amendment removing President of the United States.

**Senator Warner** seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: All members in favor.

Discussion:

**Senator Olafson:** A Do Not Pass on the original bill in the current language of the bill seems to send the wrong message to our troops.

**Senator Warner** moved a Do Pass as Amended version of SCR 4022

**Senator Anderson** seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: All members (5) in favor.

Carrier: **Senator Hacker**

Date: 2-22-07  
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES**  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SCR 4022

Senate Political Subdivisions Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Pass Amendments

Motion Made By Senator Anderson Seconded By Senator Warner

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Dwight Cook, Chairman			Senator Arden C. Anderson		
Senator Curtis Olafson, ViceChair			Senator John M. Warner		
Senator Nicholas P. Hacker					

Total Yes 5 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:



Date: 2-22-07  
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Senate \_\_\_\_\_ Political Subdivisions \_\_\_\_\_ Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken 2nd Amendment

Motion Made By Sen Hacker Seconded By Sen. Warner

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Dwight Cook, Chairman			Senator Arden C. Anderson		
Senator Curtis Olafson, ViceChair			Senator John M. Warner		
Senator Nicholas P. Hacker					
<i>Roll Call</i>					

Total Yes 5 No -

Absent 0

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Date: 2-22-07  
Roll Call Vote #: 3

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Senate \_\_\_\_\_ Political Subdivisions \_\_\_\_\_ Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 73084.0401 Title .0500

Action Taken Do Pass 25 Amendment

Motion Made By Senator Warner Seconded By Senator Anderson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Dwight Cook, Chairman			Senator Arden C. Anderson		
Senator Curtis Olafson, ViceChair			Senator John M. Warner		
Senator Nicholas P. Hacker					

Total Yes 5 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Hacker

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SCR 4022: Political Subdivisions Committee (Sen. Cook, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4022 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, after "to" insert "continue to"

Page 1, line 2, replace "disengage American combat forces from Iraq duty" with "Afghanistan"

Page 1, line 3, after the first "Iraq" insert "and Afghanistan" and remove "in the midst of an Iraq civil"

Page 1, line 4, remove "and sectarian war"

Page 1, replace lines 5 and 6 with:

**"WHEREAS**, a successful conclusion of their efforts is desired to bring our troops back with honor and the appreciation of our citizens;"

Page 1, after line 8, insert:

"That the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly supports our brave men and women of the armed forces and their sacrifice and commitment to duty; and"

Page 1, line 9, replace "That" with **"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that" and after "to" insert "continue to"

Page 1, line 10, replace "disengage American combat forces from Iraq duty" with "Afghanistan"

Page 1, line 12, remove "the President of the United States and to"

Renumber accordingly

2007 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SCR 4022

## 2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. SCR 4022

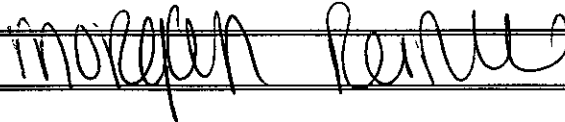
House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 22, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 5438

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

**Sen. Mathern:** Testimony attached.

**Rep. Kretschmar:** *I was happy to cosponsor this bill. I certainly am not an expert on the complex problems that the United States government is in. I certainly support the idea that we should be using all of our resources to try to resolve the problems over there. It does appear that we aren't solving these problems. I believe, and I think our national government is taking steps towards the diplomatic area to work for peace and changes. One other point I would like to make is that this resolution, I believe, is based on one of our great rights that we citizens of this country have in the federal bill of rights. We are able to petition our government in times of need. I think the citizens of our state are here petitioning our government to bring our troops home. I would hope that your committee would give this resolution a do pass after your consideration.*

**Rep. Kasper:** Is there anything that you can see that would stop any citizen of North Dakota or citizens of the United States from petitioning the government on their own with a letter, email, or any other source that they would like to petition?

**Rep. Kretschmar:** We certainly all have the right to do that. We certainly can do that. I think it is

important for our legislative assembly to do that also. Individuals and groups certainly have that right.

**Rep. Zaiser:** *I come here to support a do pass motion of this resolution. First of all I would like to applaud Sen. Mathern in bringing this forward in light of some controversy of doing that. I think it was a better resolution before it got watered down in the Senate. At least the guts are here. I think it's also a good resolution. I'd like to first of all answer Rep. Kasper's question about petitioning the government as individuals. I have done that. I have written a letter to the government and I didn't get a response. I don't know if it does any good. I think the weight of a state resolution would have more significance than a weight of an individual, just because it represents more people. We are all representatives of the people. We represent districts.*

*Firstly I would like to talk about were we are in the war in Iraq. It seems to me that we are just sort of floating. I don't know what's happening. I don't know if there is a clear mission for where we ought to be going or what we ought to be doing. If there isn't a clear mission of where we are going and what we are ought to be doing, then I feel that clearly we aren't making a whole lot of accomplishments after four years. I think we ought to be putting our efforts into saving lives. We have lost 3,200. Some 25,000 are without arms and so forth, it is gruesome. The cost has been billions and billions of dollars. It seems to me that we don't know what winning is there. Until we know that, I don't know what to do. The status quo is to stay as is. I think really the only alternative is what the future of these ladies and gentlemen is, and their lives. We hear about moral problems there. There are a number of people that come back with PTSD. Can you imagine everyday not knowing when you are going to rest, when there is going to be a bomb? I really would urge this committee to give this resolution a do pass. I think it's about our youngest and best who have committed our lives to this country. This is important. I think we have to recognize as a country when we aren't proceeding. It's better to switch course then to*

*say we are going to stay on the same course regardless of results. I think this is where we need to look at where we are going. The budget deficit in this country is huge and it keeps on growing under a very conservative president.*

**Rep. Amerman:** I don't know if you have seen the amendments, but would you support the bill as amended?

**Rep. Zaiser:** I didn't see the amendments.

**Rep. Amerman:** It has been brought up by Rep. Kasper, that even without this resolution the citizens have the right to petition their government. Certainly they do. In reality that is what you are doing today. It is open forum and everybody can come.

**Rep. Zaiser:** Yes. Even though we aren't the federal government, the key is hopefully their voices can get heard by this resolution being passed and forwarded on to federal government. This resolution does not get passed and this resolution does not get heard.

**Rep. Kasper:** You made some comments in your testimony about that there really are no plan and we aren't getting results. What basis do you use to come to the conclusion? Is it the media that you watch on television, have you been to Iraq? How do you get to that conclusion?

**Rep. Zaiser:** Well I get to that conclusion by the way a lot of people get to that conclusion. I would guess there are only a few people in this room that have been to Iraq. I get it by reading, I get it by listening to broadcast media. What I have been able to ascertain by that media is that we have changed our mission several times. The first time it was to get weapons of mass destruction. Well we didn't find any so that changed. Then it was to overthrow Saddam, well he's dead. I don't know what the mission is now. Democracy sometimes doesn't make things better.

**Rep. Kasper:** Well let me share with you how I get my information. I have a nephew from Bismarck who is in Iraq right now. He and I email each other. From the emails I have received

from him, who is there, he tells me that we are making tremendous progress. He also tells me that what the public and the United States is seeing on television, is not at all like what is going on in Iraq. He is frustrated from the fact that the truth is not being reported from his perspective and he is there risking his life. What we get from the media is not the facts of Iraq. That is how I get my opinions.

**Rep. Zaiser:** I want to congratulate your nephew for serving. I think he is doing his duty as an American. On the other hand I have heard second hand from military people that have said the exact opposite. The fact that you have a nephew doesn't make that one better than somebody that I know.

**Karen Van Fossan:** Testimony attached.

**Cameron White:** Testimony attached.

**Rep. Amerman:** Thank you for your service and testimony. Are you still in the inactive ready reserve?

**Cameron White:** Yes.

**Rep. Amerman:** If this prolongs with the rotations and stuff, could you still be called up?

**Cameron White:** Yes, I have one more year left.

**Colonel Thiele:** *I'm here on behalf of Major General Dave Spryncynatyk. It's interesting why he can't be here because as we speak his plane is about to touch down at Fort Lewis, bringing back the ADA. We are thrilled to have them home. I'm going to talk about engrossed SCR 4022. What we have before you is a strong statement of support for our service members. We have proposed some amendments in the Senate that make clear that message. And that is what we support at this time. It's interesting, this process that we are going through today is a turning example of Democracy and that is why we wear our uniform. There are very diverse opinions on what is going on. That is ok. That is part of the process. Let's remember that in*



*most countries around the world you don't have that right to stand before a group like this and express such strong views. I think that is something that we all need to very clearly understand. That is an important part of what we are doing, promoting democracy around the world. It is ok to disagree. We need to focus on that to ensure no matter what our opinions and views are, we continue to support our service members and their families. I think everybody in this room agrees with that.*

**Rep. Haas:** I think your remarks are particularly pertinent and appropriate.

**Chuck Suchy:** Testimony attached.

**Sister Yvonne Nelson:** Testimony attached.

**Chris Alexander:** Testimony attached.

**Rep. Amerman:** You ask for a do pass, is that as it is or as amended?

**Chris Alexander:** I would prefer that we work to try and bring our troops home. To bring that back into the resolution would be greatly appreciated by everyone that is fighting for peace.

**Cheryl Bergian:** *I stand in support of this resolution with the amendments. The resolution is going to bring peace and justice. I ask that everyone that is in this room that is able to stand. We are going to have people who cannot testify. Please stand, show your support, stand. Show how many people are here today in support of this resolution.*

**Sen. Potter:** I stand in support of the resolution and express that not just for myself but for my family. My 88 year old mother, my 16 year old son had tears in his eyes watching the bombs fall on Baghdad. He said "Dad those are our bombs, that is a city". I might call your attention to one part of this resolution that is in front of you. This is something I mentioned on the Senate floor. It says 'whereas a successful conclusion of their efforts is desired to bring our troops back with honor and appreciation of our citizens'. This has to change. A successful conclusion is not necessary to bring our troops home. Hardly anyone believes there will be a successful

conclusion. We will welcome our troops back with honor. This should be separated. I Support the amendments. If they fail, I would encourage you to make this minor change. Words are our business. That is what we are all about. Words are what count. These are words that say come back with honor if we win, but if you loose come back in the dead of night. We don't want to say that to our people.

**Kaycee Huus:** Testimony attached.

**Don Morrison:** Testimony attached.

**Rep. Boehning:** When you are talking about cuts for the level of funding, is that an actual cut in funding or a cut in the budget? I would like to see some numbers and I don't see numbers.

**Don Morrison:** If you look at the middle of the second page, the president has asked for nearly \$100 billion of additional war spending. It would cut to \$13 billion in non security spending. That is what would be in the budget if the spending is being cut.

**Rep. Boehning:** I just would like some numbers to see what the funding level was in the last budget. We are talking about cuts but a lot of them are just reductions. It is a cut or a reduction?

**Don Morrison:** What this represents is that most often what happens is that it is a cut in itself.

**Rep. Kasper:** I'm interested in your quote of Ben Franklin on the first page. Do you know what essential liberty he was talking about when he made that statement?

**Don Morrison:** It has to do with when people put themselves on the line. When their government wants to restrict what you can and can't do. It is up to the people under the democracy to stand up and speak.

**Rep. Kasper:** If you could provide the entire quote.

**Don Morrison:** It really does have to do with what we are talking about today.

**Irana Sate:** *I'm standing before you as a mother of two. I am a citizen of North Dakota and proud to be in the Peace Garden State. All of you are sitting here trying to get convinced to vote for SCR 4022. I can just share what is so different about my testimony from the others. I was ten years old and part of my country in India. I have seen three wars. I can see that we have been very fortunate in the United States because we have not seen any war in this country. I still remember what I saw as a student. The bombs were being dropped, there were blackouts, and there were fires and much worse. I can't image what people are experiencing in Iraq. I don't think any mother wants her children to experience that. My husband is a physician. He sees a lot of veterans. As we speak he is taking care of the veterans. I am asking please to pass this. I told my children that I am going to come convince my elected officials to vote for this bipartisan resolution. We need to bring our troops home. I hope that you put your wisdom and your elected powers to this.*

**Rep. Froseth:** Do you think the people of Iraq would be better off today with Saddam than they would be in the future under a democratic government?

**Irana Sate:** I have not lived there and I cannot answer that. I have friends who are living in Bismarck that are from Iraq. They are saying that they want their country back. Nobody wants to live under occupation.

**Rep. Froseth:** Do you think it is possible for them to get their country back if there is no democracy?

**Irana Sate:** I think we should let them decide what kind of democracy they want. They were living it before. I think they are educated enough to know what they want. They are physicians, engineers, and politicians.

**Rep. Froseth:** If the American's leave Iraq do you think everything will end?

**Irana Sate:** I don't know. We just need to understand conflict and do it in a non violent way.

**Rep. Weiler:** You came from India and have seen three wars?

**Iruna Sate:** Yes.

**Rep. Weiler:** Why did you come to the United States?

**Iruna Sate:** My husband was already here, and I joined him.

**Rep. Weiler:** Why did your husband come?

**Iruna Sate:** He came for further education. He was a physician and wanted more education.

**Rep. Grande:** I know you have mentioned that some of the Iraqi's are confused if they have better freedoms now. My constituents are very thankful for all the freedom we have now given them. I think that maybe there is a difference in opinion.

**Iruna Sate:** They came to the United States as refugees. They are going back to Iraq to do the things they have to do. They are working there. They are citizens of the United States. They are trying to understand their country. They just want their country back.

**Rep. Grande:** But because we went there they now have the ability to go back and live. My concerns are with the statements made. There was no freedom but now they have the ability to go back because of what our troops have done. I have confusion and when we talk about what Iraq was like four years ago, women had no freedom and no ability to be educated. So to say that they are not better off I found that sad that women can finally be educated.

**Iruna Sate:** So you are saying that women did not have an opportunity to be educated? The women I am talking to are very well educated. They lived in Iraq. The family I am talking about, her father was an ambassador. He was assassinated. These are educated families.

**Rep. Grande:** Only certain classes and people were given any opportunity. These young girls are finally seeing something outside of their home.

**Iruna Sate:** I disagree with you.

**Rep. Amerman:** *I was looking at the resolutions and what brought to mind was what Sen. Potter brought up on line 5. A successful conclusion is needed to bring our troops back with honor. As you know and most of you know, I have served in Vietnam. We did not have a successful conclusion in Vietnam. I would like to think that all who served came back with honor. I want to serve that we as a committee need to work to change that wording.*

**Dr. Herbert Wilson:** Testimony attached.

**Rep. Haas:** Is there any opposition testimony for SCR 4022? If not we will close the hearing on SCR 4022.

## 2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. SCR 4022

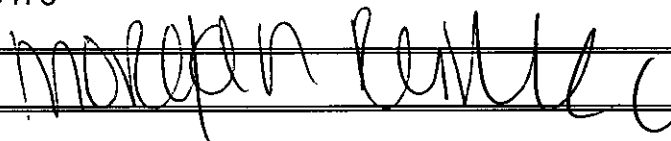
House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 22, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 5473

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

**Rep. Grande:** I move a do pass.

**Rep. Weiler:** I Second that.

**Rep. Haas:** Is there any discussion?

**Rep. Wolf:** There were some amendments that were proposed.

**Rep. Amerman:** Is it proper to move the amendments now even though there is a motion?

**Rep. Haas:** Certainly. It is appropriate at any time to move the amendments. You either pass or fail the amendment and then vote on the bill.

**Rep. Wolf:** I move the amendment proposed by Sen. Mathern.

**Rep. Amerman:** I second that.

**Rep. Haas:** Is there any discussion? We are going to take a little bit of time to take a look at the amendment and compare it to the bill.

**Rep. Weiler:** I'm going to resist the motion to these amendments based on the wording on line 5 that says the troops in Iraq have reached a successful conclusion. I don't believe that we have succeeded yet. And that they be redeployed and brought back home. I think it's a good resolution the way it currently is. I would have to disagree with some of the language in these amendments.

**Rep. Froseth:** Colonel Thiele made the statement that the resolution as it was presented, is a strong statement of support for the military. I think if we accept this amendment it doesn't sound like a very strong statement. It sounds like a statement that we shouldn't be there and that is the message we are sending. Also in Sen. Mathern's testimony, it says the American people favor the return of our troops. The legislation we do hear should be representative of ND. I didn't see anywhere in his testimony that he had any conclusive evidence that the people in ND, the majority favor the coming home of our troops. I think if we accept this we are saying that ND agrees with the rest of the nation. I don't know if that is the truth.

**Rep. Schneider:** I have a proposed amendment. I don't know if it's a modification or what. I think a successful conclusion is a vague term in times of war. How do you define success in times of war. What I would like to see is in the second whereas you could put a successful conclusion perhaps at the conclusion of their efforts it is desired to bring our.. Citizens. I don't like the word successful.

**Rep. Haas:** Is there further discussion?

**Rep. Kasper:** If you read as Rep. Weiler did on line 5, the amendment would state whereas the troops in Iraq have reached a successful conclusion of their efforts. That is making a conclusion that the state of ND has decided that the president and the policy of the congress, is wrong. The president has said repeatedly that we are not done in Iraq. That is why he has taken the steps that he has taken in the last number of weeks. For we as a legislator to assume that we know more about what is going on in Iraq than the defense department, the military, the president, is way beyond the scope of this legislative body. For that reason alone I cannot support the amendments.

**Rep. Boehning:** I guess I'm going to resist the motion too. If we take Afghanistan out, why don't we have a resolution to pull all troops out. If we pull them out of Iraq we might as well pull them

