

right, folks. And Ed Jaksha comes up and testifies and says, well, then maybe I've committed a felony, unintentionally, maybe I'm guilty of a felony according to what the Secretary of State said he testified before the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee that he may have committed a felonious act. According to what the Secretary of State said and testified before the Government, Military Affairs Committee, 15,000, roughly, people committed felonious acts. You know what kind of reasons they were given? Because they used their initials, because they used initials for the first name, because they only used initials when they signed the thing, because they only used the middle initial when they signed it and not when they printed it, because there was no date, because the dates were out of order, because the date after the petition or before a petition filed, because there was no address, they used a P.O. box, because there was no city, there is a discrepancy in the name, they might have used a nickname, because they signed it Mrs. John Doe, and those people are guilty of felonies according to our law. And I read that in the newspaper. And if there was one reason I introduced this bill it is because I read the newspaper, no other reason. I'm beginning to rethink that, whether or not I should discontinue reading the newspaper or not that is. But a lot of you folks don't realize that I'm a product of the petition process. I was in kind of a crazy general election where I had to petition onto the ballot, and for some of you, you may think that that is good enough reason to change the petition laws, only to make it a little tougher I guess. But there is a problem out there. What has happened, because of the lottery petition, is we have, in essence, stopped folks from having the right to petition their government or to use the referendum process. You are not going to see anyone take up a referendum or a petition process until there has been some determination from the Supreme Court, period. It is not going to happen. People are going to be afraid to (a) circulate, and (b) sign any petition put before them because it is clear that nobody really understands the law that well. We had city clerks, election commissioners testify. They disagreed on what the law actually meant, what a bonded circulator was, who could sign, how they had to sign, how they had verified petitions in the past versus how they were verified with the lottery petition drive. There is a problem out there. And if we do as Senator Chambers would like to do, and kill the bill, that is fine, but the problem doesn't go away. What if the Supreme Court ruled that two weeks from now and said the laws are unconstitutional? It is very likely there could be a special session to change that if they wanted to pull one of the