

before the year of the election, which could occur. But as a result of this nominating process that we've seen over in Iowa, we've had presidential candidates that are currently in that state, that are campaigning in that state nearly two years in advance, setting up organizations, going to every single county in the State of Iowa to meet with those voters. And I can't think of a better way for our citizens in our state to make an informed decision as to our next president than for the voters to have an opportunity, our citizens to meet that presidential candidate. Now, they're very busy after they're nominated. After they're nominated in July, those candidates are out there working hard, but they don't have the time to spend with the voters in the less populace states, at least that's been what's been occurring the last decades, since the advent of TV media is that we found that the presidential nominees don't spend the time in the less populace states. So really our focus should be on the primary process and we should work to have an earlier primary date, or we should work with other surrounding states in establishing some sort of regional primary that would help to encourage those candidates to come in and meet with our citizens. And I think everyone would agree that the goal of our election laws is for our citizens to meet the candidates. And I don't think that we're going to have that goal accomplished by this change in the law dealing with electors, at least it didn't occur in '92, and I doubt it will occur in '96. And I think our focus should be on trying to have that contact available to our citizens. So, I'm going to be voting to advance LB 65, as I have voted in the past, and as I voted against the bill when it originally came up. I didn't think the system would work, or the change would work or make much of a difference to us, it would only have a bad impact on this state, and that's why I didn't support it when it originally came up, and that's why I have supported the change and I urge the body to do likewise. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I have with me a copy of the Bible of politics, a copy of the U.S. Constitution. and when we talk about things that are in the constitution, many times we're not conversant with the history or what the constitution actually says. Many people... I heard Senator Withem mention that the U.S. Senate used to be elected by the legislatures, and that's true. But so