

that those individuals bring to their candidacies. A chance is there for Don Wesely to walk door-to-door in a legislative district, or any number of the rest of us down here that may not have been that well-known and worked extra hard and were able to get elected without that much money, and hopefully have done a good job serving down here. And it's that chance to open up the process and bring in those types of candidates and have them have a chance to run and win that is the reason that I've always supported district elections. Now the district plan that Senator Chambers has is that model. Another model that we compromised on in Lincoln is the four district elections of the council members with three at large people elected. That is another compromise. Then you have the county board plan that we have here, and then you have finally just the option of just everybody running at large, which I think is the worst of all plans, because there you haven't got the geographic balance, there you have only the big names and the big money able to really have the best chance of running and winning for those seats. So I certainly think a change is in order for Douglas County. The question is do we go to the Labeledz plan or to the Chambers plan, and I would prefer the Chambers plan. Again, because of the basic concept that you have the opportunity for people to run and be elected on a district level that would have no chance whatsoever on a county wide level, and it is with that in mind, thinking about the kind of people I care about a great deal, those people that may not always have the voice and the representation that others have, they are the folks that can't afford perhaps to have a lobbyist represent them. They don't have the money to run on their own and pay for an election to a big office. They don't have the sort of stature perhaps that you'd expect from some of these people on the county wide races to have. And I just think that they have the chance to run on the district level and have that chance to use that influence that they have to run and win at that level. But to be fair we ought to go down to district level and allow other individuals, without the name recognition, without the resources, without the wealth and background to have that chance of running and winning. Now all of us have run on 33,000 people in our districts. This is a district elected body. I think it's served the state well. I think the Legislature in Nebraska has done a good job. We have our disagreements, we have our differences of opinion, but I think district elections has worked for the Nebraska Legislature and it can work for the county board of Douglas County, it could work for the county board of Lancaster County. But let me give you one last problem