

SENATOR WESELY: What we have.

SENATOR BAACK: ...the same as in Nebraska.

SENATOR WESELY: I see. Okay. Well, I appreciate that. Let me just summarize, I, personally, have supported I think the recall provisions, initiative referendum provisions of our statutes and Constitution have been in place because of a long populace tradition in this state, giving power back to the people to allow them to express themselves in ways that many states don't provide for. Nebraska is pretty unique in some of that regard. At the same time I think we did see a spate of recalls that were quite out of hand in many cases and a desire to deal with this, I'm very pleased, was followed up on by Senator Baack and the Government Committee. I know Senator Rupp initiated some of this and certainly it sounds to me like we're not making it impossible to recall individuals, we're making it more sensible to recall people is what I am interpreting this as. Not only the ironic thing that we've had the discussion by the person representing former President Jefferson, but it's also interesting that yesterday Mike Boyle who was recalled was just nominated as a lead candidate for mayor again and you find the recall issue coming up quite a bit lately and it's a very interesting situation to be in to have seen this in action. But I think definitely we saw too much recall, too much division and maybe we're getting back to a little more sensibility here and I really appreciate the work of Senator Baack and the committee to try and correct these errors in the statutes.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Baack, would you like to close on the advancement of the bill, please.

SENATOR BAACK: Just briefly, Mr. President, I think that Senator Wesely has said it very well. We are not trying to make this process impossible. We're just trying to make it one that is much more meaningful and I think it's going to help the state from the standpoint that people who are interested in serving in public office will at least have a few safeguards built in to the recall process so that it's not simply used as a harassment tool against these people. I don't think that's what it is meant for. I think it's meant to deal with people who really do have some misconduct in office. I think that's what recall is in place for, not to be used as a harassment tool. I think we take some steps in that direction by dealing with it in this