

of district election is not old, it's the prevalent method by which people are elected to governing boards. In Douglas County, if you leave the number of commissioners at five, the districts will be unwieldy in terms of their size. If you allow nomination by district, and election at large, that is in a sense a crueler thing than having all at large, because the people in a given district, say mine, for example, would choose the person that they feel is most likely to represent the interests of that area. Outside forces could put somebody else up to run against that person. Because he or she represents the interests and concerns of that district, he or she would be number one. The outsider would come in second. Then when the election at large took place, the outsider, or the one favored by those outside the district, is the one that would be elected. There would be the appearance of fair representation, but the reality would deny it. So what I'm going to ask that you do is vote to reconsider adoption of Senator Bernice Labeledz's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Again, my apology, Senator Chambers, both you and Senator Withem reminded me of the error of my ways. Discussion, please. Senator Labeledz, followed by Senator Hartnett on the motion to reconsider. Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I apologize, Mr. President. I was speaking to one of my colleagues. I rise in opposition for the reconsideration of the amendment that was adopted to LB 588 some time ago. I won't go into a long debate on what we talked about when it was adopted some time ago, but, first of all, I would like to thank the Speaker for holding back this reconsideration of this amendment for a whole week until I returned. I really do appreciate that. As I said before, this, I believe, is a compromise on LB 588. And I was hoping that Senator Chambers would also agree to what the amendment did. What the amendment does is it drops back from seven, as originally asked for in LB 588, to five county commissioners. It nominates them by district in the primary, and then at large in the general. I still believe, and I fought Senator Chambers when he wanted the city council by district, in a county as large as Douglas County and involves so many people, I think all county commissioners should be accountable to every single resident of Douglas County. I can recall also when the city council went by district and I was having a problem with rendering plants and compost sites in my district, I could only get my representative to help me because the rest of them more or less decided that it