

Omaha had no representation and those terrible, pestiferous problems were dumped in South Omaha. After district elections were imposed then the change occurred and South Omaha's representative was able to persuade others on the council to stop treating South Omaha in this fashion.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, if the facts are going to be presented properly, then we're in a position to evaluate the issue based on the facts. But the real question here is whether or not, because of peak, an amendment will be added to a bill that was not considered for it. And I think this would substantially change the direction of the bill. It was not what was contemplated when it was introduced, but the real point is that the election is an unnecessary expense, it is a waste of time, and I believe that it ought to be rejected, just as the remainder of Senator Labeledz's amendment should be rejected. But I will discuss each one to give a rationale.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Labeledz, there are no other lights on. Would you care to close?

SENATOR LABEDZ: I wanted to give Senator Chambers the opportunity of getting five minutes more, but evidently he doesn't want it. I still can't understand why Senator Chambers, if he says the majority of the people in Douglas County want district elections, why he's so afraid to put it on the ballot. I doubt, when I read the percentages that rejected increasing the members of the City Council the percentages were pretty high and, Senator Chambers, you're the one that gave this out to me and I didn't have this. I certainly am grateful for that. Actually, as I said before, it was 71 percent in one case, to 29 percent increasing the city council from 33...wait a minute, no, got that one wrong, 72 rejected, 64 percent to 36 percent a plan to increasing the city council to 9 members, that was 3 more than we have now; 3 elected at large and 6 by district. Now, I cannot for the life of me, the biggest county in the State of Nebraska, and we should not allow them to vote in the next election as to how they want to be governed by their Douglas County Commissioners, whether they want them by district or at large, whether they want five or seven, if they're willing to pay, and I assure you their salary has gone up from 21,000, it will be higher than that. And he talks about the expense of having it put on the ballot. Believe me, it will be far less if