

to approve something, and it bothers me to think that they may not even know what they are voting for. Now can you tell me, do you feel that there could be...there might be a concern about that? Do you think that there has been sufficient hearing on this so the people would understand what they are voting for?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, yes, I do and I agree with you. If there were some other way to implement this without a constitutional amendment, I think the appropriate place is in this body to do so but we don't have that luxury. The Constitution tells us that we are going to have all appeals go to the Supreme Court unless we change it. I mean I labored over the same problems when we sent LR 2CA out about valuing ag land values. There is a variety of constitutional amendments that are very, very difficult and the people do share a frustration. That is the reason they look down here to us and say, what is going on? Is this (interruption)?

SENATOR SMITH: But we are giving this back to them to vote on, and so I am wondering if maybe we need to have a little more detailed process than just saying we had a hearing in the committee. I have no idea how many people showed up for it. I have been told that members of the committee and attorneys, the Bar Association, spoke for this on behalf of the people of the State of Nebraska. Do you think that that is sufficient for them to make a vote and to say, basically, what you are doing is, in effect, taking away some, what they consider to be, at least, a right that they do have at this point?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, I would disagree with you that we are taking away a basic right because we are not.

SENATOR SMITH: Well, we are changing without them understanding it then what they perceive is their right.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I think it is incumbent upon us, once this constitutional amendment gets out there, to go out and do public education, to go out and explain these amendments, and I plan to do that, and I think a number of others do.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, now let me ask you a couple of other questions, Doug.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Sure.