

process for the court system to be involved in walking precincts, and so on, and being beholden to people who had maybe made campaign donations. If I remember correctly, the last chief judge who was elected was Paul White and I remember seeing him out at Lexington, Nebraska campaigning for that job. We went to what I believe is called the Missouri plan and that's what is in effect right now. And, so far, it's worked pretty well. I really don't see that it hasn't worked as well as you people seem to think that it has not. Remember the movie "Miracle On 34th Street", there is a wonderful scene in the courtroom scene when the judge is trying to make the decision as to whether Santa Claus is really Santa Claus and the ward boss is sitting back there with his big cigar making signs to that judge and he had already reminded him that an election was coming up so he better be careful the decision he makes. Please keep all of that in mind as you vote on this amendment because, on the face of it, I don't really think this is the time nor place. Since you have already introduced the bill, I do think you should have a hearing on it, a public hearing. But I do have a question, and, Senator Kristensen, I think you could answer it.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Kristensen, would you respond.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Sure.

SENATOR CROSBY: You spoke about the temporary thing. What if a judge is appointed, he or she is sworn in and he or she sits, he or she makes decisions, then the Legisla...at that time, the Legislature is not in session to confirm or not. The Legislature goes in session, we have a hearing, he or she is rejected. Does that have any effect on those decisions that were made? And I think it could.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I would love to stand up here and tell you that I think it would but I...my first initial reaction to you, truthfully, is I think if we say that they're temporary, probably their decisions will be binding and stand.

SENATOR CROSBY: Because of using the word "temporary"?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes. I think that...

SENATOR CROSBY: Okay. I would have some doubts about that.