

resolution. You may disagree with the days included, and you may disagree with some of that particular change that the committee proposed. We can work on that. We can work with Senator Coordsen and Senator Korshoj on that matter. But the basic, fundamental concept, to try and allow us to meet early, is a sound one. Senator Lamb opposed it when we last passed this, in 1986. The people of the state almost adopted it, by...within less than a percentage vote difference. And I'm telling you right now that, if we hadn't had 662 and the seat belt amendments up there, which brought out the "aginers" in our state, the ones that don't want to see government interference whatsoever in any shape or form, hadn't been out in droves, we would have seen this amendment adopted, passed and implemented four years ago. Now there are folks out there that have that attitude, and we've heard it expressed on the floor here today, that just believe the less government the better government. But there are others that believe that government ought to be efficient, it ought to be effective, it ought to do the job that we're assigned to do in the very best manner possible. And for those of us that believe government has a role to play in our society, and should play that role as efficiently and effectively as possible, this is the way to go. This proposal is not new, it's been passed by this Legislature in the past. I think the people will, in fact, support it, if placed on the ballot. And I think the reason they'll support it is they'll recognize, as many of us who have worked through this system before have, that meeting early, electing our leadership, selecting our committee assignments, introducing a few bills, we'll have everything on track so that the people, the general public, Nebraskans around us, not just within this Chamber, not within the lobbying corps, not within the press corps, not within the world we live in down in the Legislature, but that bigger world around the State of Nebraska will have a chance to know what the Legislature is about early on in the start of a long session, what used to be a long session, so that they will know whose on first, and who is doing what with what legislation. See, right now we do that in the start of January, we meet for ten days and introduce bills, we don't have bills printed, we have hearings. So how are the people going to know the bills and know whether they support or oppose legislation, not having seen it even in print. Secondly, you have committee assignments and chairmanships up in the air until that point. And so for two months it's uncertain about who's going to be leading the committees and who's on what committees, and you can't move forward on any agenda. It's a limbo, the two month