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as voting in person." I know that the Nebraska Supreme Court in 1944, and that is 50 years ago, nearly 50 years ago, ruled that absentee voting is a privilege, not a right, but let me tell you what some of the other states' Supreme Courts have done across the country.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HEFNER: Like in 1983, the Colorado State Supreme Court said absentee voting legislation should not be construed in a manner that unduly interferes with the exercise of this right to vote. And then it went on to say that substantial compliance preserves the absent voters right of suffrage against technical restrictions. And then in 1975, the Florida Supreme Court ruled that absentee voting is no longer considered a privilege, it is considered a right. And then in 1982, the Massachusetts Supreme Court said the right to absentee vote is as sacred, is as sacred, as much to be protected in favor as the right of voting by personal presence. And I think as you search some of these court cases, you will find...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR HEFNER: ...as our society changes, we become more mobile, that absentee voting is a right and not a privilege. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Now we will go to Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this morning we have been asked to take a look at two points of view, the first being the strict interpretation of our state statutes; the other being the intent of the voters of the 30th District, and I have taken more than a passing interest in this issue since my most recent reelection to this Legislature was done, as Senator Chambers indicated, on a write-in campaign, and I am here in this body primarily because of the intent of the voter. Now I know of the 5,029 votes that I received in this last election, not everybody probably spelled my name correctly. Not everybody probably wrote my name out in full. Not everybody probably marked that box when they wrote my name in, but those votes were counted, as Senator Chambers has indicated, because the law has been somewhat unclear as to how a write-in campaign is waged. Now we tried the best we could in