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some later date, the exact results of your investigation into the Butler County procedures. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. We will now go to Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, we have been talking here whether absentee ballot voting is a privilege or a right. Let me just read you the definition of privilege from Ballentine's Law Dictionary. And it says, the definition for a privilege is a right peculiar to an individual or body. And I think I can associate this with that absentee voter because he is peculiar in voting an absentee ballot and that is because he's not able to be present and vote in the polling place so he exercises that right to vote by a ballot. I feel this morning that if we accept the majority report that's been filed and it's in your Legislative Journal, that we may be opening a door to fraud. Say if a certain election commissioner or clerk knew how somebody was going to vote or thought he or she knew how they were going to vote, and they picked up an absentee ballot, he or she could initial that or sign it in the wrong place and, therefore, that ballot could be thrown out. Senator Schmit talked on that a little bit and I think he's absolutely right, we need to be very careful and this is what we would be doing if we would accept the majority report. I still contend that as long as substantial compliance is shown a ballot should be counted. I do not think we should disenfranchise the voter. Senator Lindsay mentioned ballots cast by those at the polling place were thrown out. I think that's what he said anyway. But they were thrown out through a fault of their own, not by the fault of some other person, not by the thought of an election commissioner. I just wanted to point that out to you. Now I want to talk about another issue, I want to talk about the will of the voters, about the will of the voters. In the last 18 months, or 20 months, we've seen a lot take place over the world, the Iron Curtain. The Iron Curtain came down. The Great Wall came down. Communism is on the wane. And so...and these took place because people have decided democracy is the best method of government. The voters are supreme. And so I say to you here today, how can we stand here and erase the votes of absentee ballots who, through no fault of their own, face the prospect of this Legislature throwing their votes away, like the serviceman or the little old, blind lady, just tossing those votes out and say we can't count them? Our Constitution doesn't specify voting at the polling place or absentee voting. They