

this commission and have this group possibly up and working early summer and we'll have all summer and on into the fall preparing statutory changes and requests that we may have, so the committee has basically taken a lot of the election law concerns, put them on ice with the idea of formulating this commission. Now the bill now, as it's amended, LB 579 is supported and co-sponsored by Senator Withem and Senator Schimek, myself and Senator Baack as we've been working on this thing together as we worked through the process. As I say, the first six pages you will see that we have created the commission and that particular commission is designed in such a way to try to provide political balance. We've pretty well modeled much of that idea out of the commission for the Accountability Disclosure Commission with respect to balance. One of the things that I think we can all attest to is that particular commission has never come under fire for being partisan in nature. At various times we may or may not have certain attitudes about outcomes, but I've never, in my experience in the political arena, not heard anyone accusing them of being partisan. And so we wanted this group to fall in a similar vein, to be not a partisan body but yet knowing that they're going to be appointed by governor. So the terms, the sequences, the people of special interest are all identified in there with respect to election commissioners or county clerks out of each of the three congressional districts, people that are nominated by the major political parties, a chairman identified by the Governor himself. The Secretary of State will sit on that commission so that we'll have the liaison back to the executive branch and maintain that person and his office's expertises as part of that input stream, but be set aside and be separate from that. As you run on down through section by section, you can see we also preserved LB 579 which was a voter registration standardization form that Senator Withem had. That is also in the bill. One thing you will find on the section by section, on Section 31, on page 57, we accidentally, inadvertently skipped a change that is not on the section by section which says that candidates shall be residents of the districts in which they reside. That was omitted relative to Public Service Commissioners over the years. That is the only elected body where you do not have to be a resident of the district in which you run. So that is also included in there and I didn't want anybody to stumble in that and think that I skipped that on purpose. That is in the bill as you follow through it. But basically that is the omnibus amendment to LB 579 since we had it printed and because of the printing being such a problem we