

the news article in this packet, there is an article about the election, the last presidential election. And the headline says, Sunday, World-Herald. August 23rd, inaudible), "GOP Must Work to Win the State". And, you know, I think that's appropriate that presidential races have to be won, they shouldn't be taken for granted, that they have to put some resources into the state. And if you'll look, it says, both sides are putting resources into Nebraska, both sides. And it talks about the second district and the first district. Well, that was good, that was healthy. They had people come into the state. They had people raise money. They had active campaigns going on. But in the end what happened? In the end, Bush carried Nebraska, got all five electoral votes, the system worked as it was supposed to work. People say it didn't work last year. Sure it worked.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time. Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Jones wishes to announce that the following guests are visiting the Legislature, Bob and Verla May are here from Arnold, Nebraska, and they are both under the north balcony. Will you both stand and be recognized, please. Thank you. The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members. I, too, rise in opposition to LB 65. I think there are a number of reasons, and you've heard a number of them already expressed why, I think, we should not go forward with LB 65. I'd like to add perhaps a new one I don't know that I've heard. Senator Exon has talked about and others have talked about in the Congress of doing away with the electoral college. There's a lot of question about why we have the electoral college, does it, in fact, truly represent the will of the people; should we not just go to a direct vote of the president. And this discussion has gone on in the Congress and there's a lot of concern about what will the impact be. Senator Wehrbein talked about will we just end up having large population centers, will we just appeal to splinter groups, will we not appeal to larger national interest. Well, one way to find out how all of this might work in the future is, if we did away with the electoral colleges, is to take an interim...intermediate step of the sort of thing we're talking about here in Nebraska. One of the things, one of the advantages of our country, why we've been now for several hundred years, been able to have stability, to move forward, to progress and not have great changes that are upheavals in our system, is that we have 50 states that can try