

asked their people, do you like the electoral college? And the answer is, at least in my district, no. In fact, if you've ever been in a public school, or even in a college if you're working with adults who want to know more about their government and you say, oh, by the way, did you know that when you vote for president it really doesn't mean anything unless you vote for the winner in your state? They'll say, you're kidding! They're absolutely amazed that their vote, if they don't vote for the overall winner, is absolutely meaningless for the President of the United States. In fact, they are very disheartened by that, and that's one of the reasons why we have so low turnouts is because so many people know that, gee, if they're not on the winning side, their vote is absolutely meaningless, and so they won't vote for president. Of course, then they don't go to the election, we don't have votes down for the other offices as well. Couple of points I'd like to make. Number one, what we really should be asking ourselves is, is Nebraska's...are Nebraska's people smart enough and intelligent enough to vote for the President of the United States? Senator Kristensen argues that, gee, if we keep this system, some unscrupulous group for national attention could come in, spend millions of dollars, prey on good, loving, well-meaning, naive Nebraskans and get us to vote for that person so they can get some national notoriety. See, that's interesting because I just was at government hearings, yesterday, on petitions, and I had Nebraskans and Senator Kristensen and others coming before the committee, and they said, you know, Nebraskans... we can ferret out all these things. Initiative 300 was something that the people voted on, and we had national corporations come in and put thousands of dollars to defeat Initiative 300, and guess what, Nebraskans saw through that at the time, voted for Initiative 300. Most of the initiatives or the petition processes that we have, people of Nebraska ferret out and vote for what is the best things for Nebraska. Senator Wehrbein was saying, gee, what would happen if we elected governors by district. Senator Wehrbein missed the whole point. Yes, we have the President of the United States right now selected by states, not people. And he said, gee, what happens if the governors, if we elected by district. Senator Wehrbein, fortunately Nebraska, the Governor is elected by the people of the State of Nebraska. We actually believe in this state that the people, no matter who...what party they run on in the general election, have the intelligence to vote for the best leader. So it isn't district. Senator Kristensen says that, gee, he doesn't want us to look silly on the national media. In