

fact, in the committee he commented to George Will and others, poke fun and mock Nebraska. I called George Will, talked to Mr. Will last week. He said exactly the opposite. He said Nebraska's is just as legitimate as any other system they have. He prefers the old way, but his rationale is not because ours is wrong, but because it seems to work well...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...for the country. In Nebraska, what we want in Nebraskans, I believe, Nebraskans want to have a say in their government. We, by defeating this bill, will ensure that Nebraskans, when they vote for a person who is not the winner, their vote may indeed count. And, yes, let's say in Douglas, second congressional district, or even the first congressional district, at some point a political party, other than the one who particularly has won all the time, wins. The Republicans are scared to death of that and for good reason. You know what that does? That brings competition. When political parties are uncomfortable that they may lose, they have to work their tails off. And I question anyone in here that says two-party competitive districts are not superior than a process that Senator Kristensen wants us to do where all you have to do is win statewide and you don't have to worry about certain areas because it doesn't make any difference.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And Nebraskans, when they vote for a president, if they vote for the loser, for the most part, would like to know that their vote may have counted.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Schimek, followed by Senators Withem, Chambers, Abboud, Fisher, Wehrbein and Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I would remind you that Nebraska has only five electoral votes, regrettably. And there was a time, back in the sixties, that we had an all star primary and that we were one of the few primary states in the United States, and we got lots of attention from presidential candidates. That hasn't happened in recent years, and I go way out on a limb and predict it's not going to happen in the future. We're not going to get the attention of a New York or a California or whatever. And that