

Schimek, will you turn on your light, please. Senator Day, Senator Jones, Senator Landis. Thank you. Senator Avery and Senator Day. Senator Day and Senator Avery. We're now waiting for Senator Day. There's been a request for a roll all vote. Mr. Clerk, please proceed.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See page 589 of the Legislative Journal.) 31 ayes, 10 nays to cease debate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Debate ceases. I raise the call. Senator Kristensen, to close.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. Madam President, I would like to yield my first two minutes of closing to Senator Wehrbein, who is the cosponsor, please.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam President, members of the body, I just want to say a lot of this, the way I'm looking at it is what is long-term for the country. It isn't really necessarily a partisan issue for me, although I recognize it is for many. But I think long-term this is not the way the United States of America should go and I do not think Nebraska should necessarily be a leader in this. We talk about gerrymandering of districts, we know it will never happen in Nebraska but it certainly will happen in the United States. Districts ultimately will be drawn considering what it will do for a presidential election vote. The electoral college vote will be a consideration down the road if many other states accomplish this. One of the reasons for the electoral college is to have a comfort level of the entire country. Over the last 200 years and I assume into the future, the electoral college will elect a president that is popular throughout the country based on the electoral college vote. It does set aside sometimes perhaps the fact that it isn't necessarily the popular vote, but those populace states do have a say, and I'll admit it sometimes may work to the detriment of Nebraska. But the point I think the president...should be made is that the president is critical, the presidency is critical, and we should have a president that at least the majority of the country feels comfortable with, that was the purpose of the electoral college. This is not an area Nebraska should be a leader in. Thank you, Senator Kristensen.