

don't change it now. So I opposed the kill motion.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body, and I appreciate Senator Wehrbein's comments on the issue, and I certainly understand where he is coming from. Again to put more, if I can, again for the record because I understand the votes aren't going to change here today, certainly based on what people say, but sometimes it is good to have at least in the record if you are making a major change or if you are changing back to a process that deals with the election of a President of the United States. It deserves to have some, at least, comments in the record about it, more of a historical process, and I don't think this is a bad...a bad thing to have happen. One of the things that I think all Nebraskans and all Americans are concerned about is what happens if we get to the selection of the President where we are so disjointed that we actually have more of a parliamentary type system where you have to get people to agree to a coalition type of government in order to get enough votes to carry the day. It's an interesting argument and certainly one, a process that I would not want to go to. But if you have, if you look at the elections that we had just this last time in the State of Nebraska, and in the nation, as a whole, did the majority of the people select the President of the United States? Of course not. The majority of the electoral college did, but how many actual percentage votes did President Clinton get? Did he get 50 percent of the vote or more? No. It was 40 percent of the vote. In fact, that was the big thing, the President of the United States, President Clinton was elected by less than 50 percent, and only by the electoral college did he get the proper number, and that was because there were three people involved. So when we talk about the actual majority of people having the say in who is the President of the United States, the majority of electoral college, those things even at that are not as they may seem. To the point that I was trying to discuss on Nebraskans, if you went and asked most Nebraskans, do you believe the electoral college where they vote for the president and not the people is a good thing? I am going to...I will bet you that if you ask them, they are going to say, no, we believe the electoral college is not a good process, that the people should the say. In fact, in my discussions with a lot of the petition people, and Kent Bernbeck comes to mind, and I've