

changes in there that I would like to see made and I will probably take Senator Bernard-Stavens up on his offer and vote on this issue. Some have framed this as the watershed issue with regard to whether you're going to be supportive of LR 6 or not and I would argue that's far too early to determine. I don't believe that the change to LR 6, no matter what form it takes, whether the committee amendments are...its current green copy form is something that will necessarily hold without being, I guess, altered. The thing I wanted to touch on again is the whole argument that somehow by changing this back we are going to correct things. If you read the court decision in Dugan, what they said was that the Legislature has changed the constitution in 1988 with LR 248CA. I mean the Legislature offered it, the people changed it. People always make changes to the constitution. They interpreted it then to have Section 2 and 4 in conflict, and they said with the change to registered voters, even though everybody agreed what the change in registered voters meant, everyone understood why we were doing it because of the problem with regard to the failed lottery drive, where charges were filed, individuals who were very active in the petition process admitted that they themselves had committed those same kinds of mistakes...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...but yet were not caught so it didn't matter. Again, the change at the federal level with regard to the lawsuit and the argument about paid circulators and that decision that came out of the U.S. Supreme Court, all of that transpired roughly about the same time and bills were introduced, LB 716, which was a major rewrite in our statutes regarding the petition, initiative petition and referendum process. The thing to remember though is that those two sections of the constitution had remained unchanged since 1920. They had never been tested. No one had ever challenged the issue before and, in fact, in 1920 they were changed from legal voter to electors.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. Senator Hall, you are recognized.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, members, they were changed from legal voters to electors and it was done at the 1920 constitutional convention. What happened though is that the Legislature came back here in 1969 and because of the changes that were made with regard to sales and income tax, put