

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Dierks, a couple of minutes.

SENATOR DIERKS: Well I just wanted to call the body's attention to a couple of things. Senator Hall was mentioning here, that if you take a good look at the green copy, Senator Hall, you'll find that we have scratched Section 4, Article III, Section 4 and put that over in the Article III, Section 2 so it should take care of your problems. Well what we've done with this amendment is to actually, you know, I said we want to go back to where we were before but what we did with this new language is to clarify that. We've actually nailed down the signature requirements and we've nailed down the basis for them so that is done in this legislation, in LR 6. I think it's important that you know that so it's not going to be subject to the Supreme Court's scrutiny that you think it will be. The other thing I want to remind you of is that, you know, we're still looking at this court decision on two for one signatures. We think that's difficult. Who's to say the courts will not simply return to the current numbers of registered voters which I think is also difficult? I would just urge your nonsupport of the committee amendments. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Robinson, you have about three minutes left.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I'd like to give two minutes to Senator David Bernard-Stevens.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bernard-Stevens, about two minutes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, I think I can do it in one minute. That will be a challenge, but I'll certainly try. I put before the committee, or the Legislature, a wish, and that is that we could agree that the committee amendments, that the Government Committee worked very hard amid a lot of pressure I will add, similar to the type of pressures that you heard from Senator Witek that if we don't do it a particular way people are going to come out of the woodwork and we're not going to be back and we're going to be defeated and all this type of stuff. But the committee overlooked that for the most part and said we're going to do what's right and we put a policy together that most Nebraskans, I think, that I have talked to, certainly my constituency, say you know it sounds like a good idea, good policy. And that is if you're going to have to have paid petitioners and volunteer petitioners they shouldn't be at the