

Committee and I guess I get to the point on all this changing of our petition process to just say it definitely crosses my mind that, and not in this case, because I know Senator Beutler is very sincere, but it's almost as if we can't trust the people of Nebraska to have a petition process. The people in this body think everybody with a brain has been elected to the Legislature. This is just what I think and I know this is not true in every case, but it gets to be like this when we see these change after change after change. Now we have to go in, and if theirs isn't good enough, we're going to put one in that says that ours is better or different, whatever you want to say, and you can vote for either one. I, for one, think that the petition process is the process of the people of the State of Nebraska, and if they get enough people together to go ahead and initiate a petition and enough people to sign a petition, that should be respected. That process should be respected and to come in after a petition has been filed and is already started and say we don't think that's good enough, I mean essentially that's what this says to me and I know this is just my opinion, but we don't think this is good enough so we're going to give you an alternative to vote on and then you can pick either one. It's...these aren't children, these are adults that can sign these petitions. These are registered voters. These are people who have an opportunity to think about something, they hear it in the papers, they can read it on the petition, they can talk to other people, they can think about these things. If they don't like the petition, they don't have to sign it, and if you want a different constitutional amendment, then bring it through the Legislature. There's a process open to every single one of us to put in a different suggestion. I don't think it should be automatic that this can be done every time somebody puts in a petition that we can give an alternative or our Executive Board can decide to put in an alternative. I think we should respect the process too that we have to go through for a constitutional amendment and it's already there for us. I didn't think this was a good suggestion when it came into the Government Committee, I don't think it's a good suggestion now, and I hope people will be aware enough about what this amendment is suggesting to make a decision and hopefully vote against it and see it as a very paternalistic measure. And I'm not sure that Nebraska can even...I know I'm getting very tired of that attitude, that paternalistic attitude on the petition process thinking that somebody...that you have a better way and no one of the people, I guess I could say, no one in the populace has come to me and said we really need a change on this petition.