

Hall has and others, this bill probably won't move. And the seed I want to point, plant in everyone's mind, if the bill doesn't move, there's not enough votes for closure on any side on this one. And if it doesn't move we go back to the current numbers and the current numbers are higher than anything we have out there now. Senator Dierks' portion of the bill as it now stands, his numbers would be for an initiative 40,000. Where we would be if this bill doesn't move, 64,000, some odd. On the bifurcated system we're at 34,000. We would go to 64,000. On an initiative right now on Senator Dierks' portion of the bill, 57,000. If this bill doesn't move it will go up to 91,000 and I will put to you that there are a lot of people in this body that would rather see that happen, not have the bill move at all and simply go back and stay at the numbers we have now because they are much higher. And I caution Senator Dierks and others that that is where we may end up. I don't think we should take Senator Hall's bait. I would like to. It would seem to be a just reward that we go back to the days of yore where everything was confusing and we had no idea what the word elector meant and I don't think this body wants to do that nor is it good policy to do that. But I do caution about the Dierks amendment because what I see happening with the Dierks amendment and the only thing I see happening is that the first part of the Dierks amendment which would be going back to the way it was with the new numbers, that would not sunset until 1999. What I see happening is every year, '96, '97, '98 and '99 this issue would be before us because the one side represented by Senator Dierks would try to come forward and strike the bifurcated portion of it. We would have this battle every year and if the body wants to do that, that's great, that's fine. I love these battles. But the way the bill is now, we hopefully will find out within a year totally what is our system going to be because the first thing that would happen, I would suspect if the bill passes without the Dierks amendment and if it went to the people, there would be a challenge and if the people accepted it there would be a challenge to the constitutionality of it and we would find out, not only Nebraska, but nationally all of the states that are looking at the volunteer versus paid, we will have a decision that will help everyone. I'm not sure if I were on the other side, members of the citizen group or Common Cause, I don't think I would challenge the bifurcated process if I knew it didn't come in until 1999. I would leave it. I would leave it unchallenged, stay with the way it is now, the way Senator Dierks wants it, and then the last year try to get some type of injunction or stay and then challenge it. And this state would