

teacher, in the north balcony. There were guests of Senator Schrock, they had to move onto their next meeting, but Senator Schrock did have 21 seventh and eighth grade students from Phelps County Elementary School R-7 near Holdrege. Would we please recognize all of those people, please. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, first of all, I want to say that it is good to have you back. I missed you greatly yesterday, especially as we started going into the latter part of the afternoon because I think you would have used good judgment and adjourned us sooner than we were adjourned, but, nevertheless, that is water over the bridge or under the dam, I mean under the bridge and, anyway...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers, you should not bet a lot of money on my using good judgment, but go ahead.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: All right, I began to think about that, and I got mixed up in my words even, but I am going to support Senator Beutler's amendment, and between the last time he offered it or we discussed this idea and today, I've had a chance to think about it, and I will tell you why I am going to support it. It fits in with the idea that I have that the Constitution should not be easily amended. I don't think it should be easily amended by the Legislature or by petition. When we are talking about amending the Constitution, what all of us should be interested in is having people thoroughly understand what it is that is being presented. First of all, these amendments sometimes are drafted inartfully, and it is difficult to know exactly what it is that is being proposed. Because there could be disputes as to the meaning of the language, let alone the impact it will have if added to the Constitution, public debate, public discussion are things which I think are essential to wise lawmaking. Mr. Jaksha likes to refer to people who circulate petitions as the second house of the Legislature. He got that from some court opinion, and it seems to me that when the second house can be inhabited by anybody, there should be greater scrutiny of what is done in that house which, to my way of thinking based on some of the proposals that have been offered, I would describe as a house of ill-repute, rather than a second house of the Legislature. But before those people get angry, I have made more direct references to this body in similar terms, a house of ill-repute because of the way we prostitute the process and the state's resources. But on this amendment, all that is being said is that for a period of nine months there