

We discussed this in the Government Committee and we've discussed it probably for several years, but on the discussion at the time mostly was centered around whether it should be three months or one month, the time to require that an individual had to be registered to vote before they could circulate a petition in the State of Nebraska. I was concerned at the time and remain concerned about the provision of putting any time length on the requirement for a registered voter. And my amendment would just say that the individual had to be a registered voter. It would not state that there would be any length of time that they would have to be registered to vote. I understand some concerns of people who say that people come in from other states and register to vote and live in a hotel. But I think in my mind the petition process is one that should be...that we should facilitate, and we should not keep putting up new rules of the game to change all of the hoops that people have to jump through to participate in the petition. It isn't like as soon as they get the signatures on a petition it's immediately a law in the State of Nebraska, it's just a petition onto the ballot, and then voters still have to approve whatever that language is in the petition. So to me it seemed a little bit of a hoop to jump through by stating that the individual circulating the petition had to have any length of time in the State of Nebraska for time of registration, especially in light of last year passing motor-voter, more or less saying that we were signing so many people up to vote and we didn't require any length of stay for those individuals to sign...to register to vote. So I don't know why we have to have any length of time stated for an individual to circulate a petition. So when the Attorney General's Opinion came out saying that they believed this was unconstitutional to have a length of time, that was just another reason for me to bring this discussion up again on 337, as we did in Government and again on the floor of the Legislature, to see if there were others who agreed with me, enough others who agreed with me that it was really a hoop that we didn't need to put up for people to jump through to circulate a petition, that it really, to me, if an individual comes from another state and circulates a petition here in the State of Nebraska it still...it's still just the first step to getting something passed here in the State of Nebraska. And if that individual wants to help and become a registered voter in the State of Nebraska I'm not sure that we should put up a road block or another hoop to jump through, it just is some thing else that people should have to consider when they're trying to get a petition going. And I, myself, would like to see the