

morning, and thank you, Senator Schimek, by the way, I'm wondering if...if maybe a better compromise might be a bright line on the signature and then the residence may or may not be open for question or challenge on the part of whoever is doing it. I don't know whether that's an answer or not. But I'm sitting here thinking while this conversation is going on when you look up somebody's name in the phone book and, depending on the community you're in, you may have two pages or more with the same surname and many of those have, quite frankly, there's probably a lot of John Smiths in the Lincoln phone book and I just really have some concern for the people that have to verify the signatures in areas where you don't know everyone else. This really, quite frankly, isn't altogether that large of a problem in most of the counties in Nebraska but certainly I can see that it could become a great problem in Douglas County and Lancaster County and Hall County and all of those counties that have a significant shifting population. And given on balance all of the problems that we bring about with the allowing some deviation from registration standards for a petition signature, if they're at all important, maybe that is the only...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...viable alternative for the election officials...county clerk's office or election commissioners in the county to verify signatures in that they do have to match. Now whether match means an "i" dotted or not is something that is somewhat questionable. But certainly I guess the responsibility of us as voters and registered voters in Nebraska is to ensure that our registration is up to date, and I haven't done that and I suspect many other people haven't. When it comes to an issue on whether a petition signature is valid or not, maybe it is important. Wish I knew the bright line answer but when we get into human judgment in making a decision of whether that's a valid signature or not we are probably going to create more problems than what...when...what improvement of a process that we're going to bring about. You know, because you can challenge those...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Schimek.