

not. That can be debated at a future date. Only issues and not candidates are on the ballot. Another important issue, another important statement here, we're not talking about candidates, we're talking about issues. Election may occur when another election is scheduled... may not occur when another election is scheduled. Section 5 establishes procedures for a mail election. Clerk or commissioner mails the ballot and returns envelope to registered voter when ten...between ten and twenty days prior to the election. Madam Speaker, I feel kind of like Rodney Dangerfield here, this morning here. (Gavel.) Not much respect, so...

SENATOR CROSBY: Would you keep your...he feels like he's getting no respect. Could you keep your conversations down so the speaker may be heard.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Not that I'm telling them what to do or anything. I know it's early in the morning and it's cold out this morning, twenty below or whatever the case, but...and I'm glad we're all here. Okay, Section 6 establishes procedures for a voter to mark and return ballot. Deadlines for return are 5:00 p.m. on the day of election if personally delivered, or see by 10:00 p.m. on the second day if the ballot is mailed. Section 7 provides statement on return envelope for a voter to sign. This ballot will be checked by the election commissioner for a proper signature, so this verifies that the person did actually vote. It's a safeguard in that now, currently those signatures are not checked. So this is a safeguard in the fact that you won't be able to vote for someone else. Section 8 provides procedure if ballot is lost, destroyed, or spoiled. In other words, they can get a new ballot if it happens to not come to them, if it's lost, spoiled, or whatever. Section 9 establishes criteria for a ballot to count. Ballot must be returned in the envelope with the voter's signature. Signature is compared and so on and so forth. Section 10 establishes that the mail ballots are counted in the same manner as absentee ballots. Currently, the state of Nebraska has over 30,000 people vote by absentee ballot. Many people don't realize this. So we currently do have a form of this very...LB 964. Currently 30,000 people vote by absentee ballot. Are we inventing the new wheel? No, we are not. I guess it's a rather simple bill. I think we understand what it does. We've talked about it for years. I think it's a common-sense type thing to do. I mean I don't understand why anybody would not want to do this on