

the ballot box, when why don't you get some things in here that keep the people 200 feet away from the homes? If you're admitting that there's some problems with ballots going to the wrong homes and getting into the wrong hands in an absentee situation, or people, in some cases I've heard about taking like a large number of absentee ballots into like a nursing home or those types of situation and helping them fill their ballot out, if we have put in all these fraud statutes two years ago, pages and pages of them to prevent this from happening, then why aren't we addressing some of these issues on the Cudaback bill, because they're just as valid on the Cudaback bill. If you're saying that it's just an expansion of the absentee, then let's say that all of the mail-in will be under all of the same statutes that all of the absentee balloting is under, the same fraud statutes. And I only have two amendments, but let's say that it has to be under all of the fraud statutes that we adopted two years ago, that you adopted two years ago, for the absentee ballots. I find that the absence of that discussion on the opportunity for fraud, and the...all the possibilities that something could go wrong with this type of program completely absent in this discussion...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WITTEK: ...from the individuals who insisted, two years ago, that this had to be done, that adopted, you know, 10 pages of statutes and 500 pages of rewrite on our election bills, and it's the same people now coming back, and I believe it's because of the opportunity that those people see in not having any of the...of the...you know, I've seen here, they're circumventing their own laws in other areas of election law by spending money the year before they're elected so that they can stand up and say, I want these things. It's the same people coming in and saying, we're going to slap all these statutes on absentee ballots, but we're going to turn around, two years later, and do a mail-order ballot bill that circumvents all that law. It's...it's deceptive and I don't agree with it and I will not be voting for the Cudaback bill, although I will be adopting the Bernard-Stevens amendment because it makes a bad bill a little less bad. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. Senator Schimek. Senator Schimek, you're recognized to speak.