

March 12, 1996

LD 964

whatever, is also there at the home. So we should allow the same statutes to hold for the same situation except it is in a different place. It is in their home. There has also been some discussion at some point about voting...voting by electronic means and how we will address that at the time, you know, from your computer or something at home. So I know that some things may be changing in the future along these lines, and if you adopt Senator Cudaback's bill, we certainly will have the opportunity here to mail-order in the state of Nebraska. But if we found it within our...within your vote to put in I think it is about 20 pages of statutes governing fraud for absentee and in the voting ballot situation, then I think we should at least address this amendment and the following amendment to address potential fraud situations from an individual who receives a mail-order ballot. I think they should deserve the same protection, the same respect that we give that individual who is going into the polling place as a person who enters a polling place at the school, or wherever. I would hope that you would see fit to understand and adopt this amendment that we do the same thing, as I've put on this yellow sheet of paper, we do, essentially, the same thing for the polling place, that you can't be talking to people and, you know, pushing your candidate at the polling place. So I think you should have that same protection in your home. I envision with this type of, since this will probably be in the Omaha area, if you have a bond issue or something, legions of people coming into the neighborhoods, you know, ringing doorbells and whatever, from the time that those ballots are mailed out to the time really that the election day occurs. It will be...I think you are going to have a lot of angry people out there, a lot of harassed people out there, who aren't going to like that, the way that it is. So I think the least we can do is afford them the same protection that we do individuals who want that protection when they go into their polling place at the school, or whatever, and that's that distance that we have said that they should keep, and that's what this amendment does. It requires that distance of 20 feet, which would prohibit door to door from the time that the ballots are mailed to the date, essentially, of the election unless you could prove otherwise that the individual had already mailed in their ballot, which would be difficult, and I understand that. It would not prevent phone banking, and if you've had...if you've been in the Omaha area, there has been plenty of phone banking going on. There is no way to do that, but I think we've at least shut down one area that we see fit