

signatures, find out if there were any problems as far as a delay or the mail delay or what happened on the ballots and, remember, sometimes even the candidates that applied to run for office, two of them to my knowledge, were now allowed even though they...the postage mark was prior but the letter didn't get there in time. Even though we don't know all those things, we're going to go ahead and do it for all of the property tax elections. I don't understand why you want to do that. It doesn't make a lot of sense to me. Senator Maurstad's amendment is a way that Senator Cudaback gets what he wants. Senator Maurstad's amendment is a way that I get what I want to a large part, allow the experiment to take place but keep it at a narrow level and we can expand it when we get all the information and we keep the property tax issues out for the time being. We can certainly include them later, next year if we so desire. The other thing that really intrigues...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...intrigues me is that when we say that we want to open it up because why not, the amendment I'm going to be filing now will open it up, and why not? Will include candidates. Why should we, as state senators, be afraid of more participation? Why should mayors be afraid, and they're not I suspect and I suspect we are not either, why should we be afraid of increased voters for candidates? And the only rationale I heard from anyone supporting the bill was that these are pretty personal things and can get kind of ugly from time to time and it may not be a good thing to do because of the potential more for fraud and what have you. And you're going to sit there at the same time and tell me that these property tax issues that will be going to the public on levies and what have you are not going to be emotional issues? You don't think that when they...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. Senator Avery.

SENATOR AVERY: I'll yield my time to Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Avery, very much. Do you not think that when you cut, I'm again going to North Platte, and any of you go to your districts, find the ones that