

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 729

under the standards set out in the bill. Obviously, this would not cure a potential separation of powers problem, since this office is also an executive agency. I believe Senator Chambers said the difference between a weasel and an ermine, Senator Schimek said that wouldn't cure the separation of powers problem, and unfortunately I do believe they are correct. This bill may have had a noble goal, and that's saving time, saving money, and easing the initiative process. But LB 729 is the wrong solution and, unfortunately, my amendment is also a wrong solution, and so I'm going to withdraw my amendment at this time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Redfield would move to bracket LB 729.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Redfield, you're recognized to open on your motion to bracket LB 729.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Mr. President, members of the body, I stand before you very humbly because I am not a lawyer and I am not an experienced legislator. But what I am is what you are, a representative of the people of the state of Nebraska. And what I do share with you is a sincere and deep abiding respect for the Constitution of the people of the state of Nebraska. And I will read from that Constitution because that is what is important here today. In Article III, Section 1, it says, "The people", "The people reserve for themselves however the power to propose laws and amendments to the constitution and to enact or reject the same at the polls, independent of the Legislature. And also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act, item, section or part of any act passed by the Legislature." Article III, Section 2, "The first power reserved by the people is the initiative whereby laws may be enacted and constitutional amendments adopted by the people independently of the Legislature." Article III, Section 3, "The second power reserved is a referendum which may be invoked by petition against any act or part of an act of the Legislature, except those making appropriations for the expense of the state government or a state institution existing at the time of the passage of such act." Article III, Section 4, "The provisions