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General to be the lawyer for the state. You do elect an Attorney General to be a lawyer for the state. You cannot and should not elect an Attorney General to be a lawyer for a party. That is not their function. Their function is to be the lawyer for the state.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Bromm, on LB 510

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Senator Crosby, and I don't know that I can add too much to what Senator Wickersham said because a lot of those thoughts were the same ones that I had, but I would like to add a couple of things. We are elected, the 49 of us, on a nonpartisan ballot, and is that so bad? I, personally, don't think so. I think it's fine because that, I think, allows us to vote and take positions more on at least some principles in our situation than feeling that, gosh, if I take this position, if I vote this way, I am absolutely voting against the party, and there would be ramifications in the next election or they may support somebody else, that sort of thing. I support...I still think I support having political parties, I know I do, and I think it has its place, it has its purpose, but it hasn't proved to be necessary for us in the Unicameral. In fact, I think it's...I think it's been...it's worked well that it isn't. And we, in Nebraska, are a fairly independent lot. We're not easily herded into a political party chute, if you will. You can look at the record of who we elect to Congress and the Senate and who has the majority of registered voters in this state, and it's not a record of straight political party domination, even though one political party might have more registered voters than the other. We are a fairly independent lot. Now the Attorney General's position, in my view, is very much one that could be and should be elected on a nonpartisan basis. When someone hires a lawyer, when someone comes to see me, they do not...they are not terribly interested in what my political party affiliation is. They want to know whether I know something about the problem that they have, whether I have the ability to solve the problem, and how much it's going to cost. And with respect to the state's Attorney General, I think our primary focus should be and is, will this person be a capable legal adviser for us? Will this person represent the state well in all of our problems, and right now we certainly