

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 2, 2000 LB 510

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...the spectra. I plan to vote for the bill. Thanks.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Those senators wishing to speak on the advancement are Senator Lynch, Senator Don Pederson, Senator Smith, and Senator Tyson. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. President and members, I, as I listen to the debate, I have mixed emotions. Came from a family of all Republicans. A long time ago I became president of the Douglas County Young Democrats because they asked me to. I had to change my registration to take that job, but I'm going to stay loyal and faithful to it as well because I need...I think we need a two-party system. What seems kind of interesting on this floor though is did I hear some time ago on this floor during this year that there was some conversation about if in fact a state legislator ran for another office they ought to resign? That's kind of interesting. What was the reason for that? Was that to keep politics out of government; to tell you that you shouldn't take advantage of the position you have that could possibly help you if you sought another office? And is in fact...isn't it a fact that the constitutional officers of the state are the same as our state legislators? We're all constitutional officers and politicians responsible to the state and our districts. If we intend to pursue the bill that says legislators should resign if they run for another office, why don't we say the same thing about constitutional officers? You know, if we did that, you wouldn't have an Attorney General, you wouldn't have a (laugh) a Lieutenant Governor and a Secretary of State. Think about that a minute. You know, what's right and what's wrong? It doesn't really make much difference to me. This issue, as far as being nonpartisan is concerned, I have no trouble with that. I might even vote for it. But I feel strongly we need a two-party system but the constitutional officers running for office now are fine. You know, they're off running against each other, but it's politics, isn't it? Don't they every day say something? Do they do things? How do we know what they do is honestly what they think? I think that's