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to do something with this issue. And I'll turn my light on and ask probably the Exec Board Chair some questions about timing, et cetera. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Bromm, followed by Senators Johnson, Janssen, Jones, and Schimek. Senator Bromm.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. I think the serious budget problem that we're dealing with and that we've been discussing all week probably takes away some of the importance of this particular measure. I thought it was a very important measure, or it wouldn't, certainly, be on the agenda. And I don't think we'll spend a whole lot of time on it. But I...it's important enough to be there for a number of reasons. The body that we have in here today working on these bills and these measures aren't going to be here very long. And that will be the case in...to some extent, without term limits also, because many of us don't stay here that long. Half of the members have more than five and a half years of experience, and half have less than that. Five and a half is the median amount of experience. But more importantly, regardless of what you decide that you would like to do, or your constituents decide what they would like you to do, in 2006, 20 of us will not be allowed to run for election. In 2008, another 24 will not be allowed to run for election. So that is significant, in terms of institutional memory and experience. And so I think this is an extremely important issue. Nebraska got caught up in a wave of term limit euphoria that tried to sweep across the nation. I think at it's height there were maybe 17 states that adopted term limits. Some have now repealed it. I think there are 17 left currently with term limits for their legislators. There are efforts in at least six legislatures to deal with that, and an attempt to at some point repeal their term limits. And most cases, it's in statute. It's not in their constitution. The Idaho legislature repealed their term limits in January of 2002, and had a successful effort to do that. There was some sort of a vote to either affirm or reaffirm that action by the people, and the people affirmed that action, as I understand it. I think the more that people understand what it means...and the best way, when I am in my district, that I find that I can