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in trouble with the law, and can tell you that there's very few of them--most of the ones I've worked with are young--even realize they have lost this benefit, until they've been in jail, prison, and released, or maybe just on probation, for a felony, and then have learned what they have missed out on, and would like to be part of it. I've said before on this floor, and I'll say it again, the only difference between at least 50 to 60 percent of the inmates that we have locked up in our prisons in the state of Nebraska, the only difference we have between them and us, most of us, anyway, is they got caught. I mean that very sincerely. And I'm not talking about every inmate that is out there has committed some kind of a heinous crime. But some of them are there for paper crimes, possession crimes. And they've learned, in a lot of cases, what they have missed. I was privy this last election to know one individual who had recently got a pardon, and had to wait that full ten years for that pardon. The person got the pardon in September, and could not wait to vote in November. This particular person stood in the rain and cold for two hours, in a line where they were short of ballots, so he could vote. These people want to vote. And we're not punishing them by taking away their privilege to vote. This is America. And I don't believe, by committing these crimes, that they thought up-front, I'm going to lose the purpose...lose the ability to vote. So I think we ought to give them the right to vote, especially when they are in the institutions or in the criminal element, or the people who have been locked up called off-paper. They should surely be allowed to vote. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you. Mr. Clerk, do you have an announcement?

CLERK: I do, Mr. President. The Retirement Systems Committee will meet in Room 2102 now; Retirement Systems, Room 2102, immediately.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Mister...Senator Smith, you're recognized.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. If Senator Schimek would yield to a few questions, I'd appreciate