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February 9, 2005 LB 53

you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 3 nays on adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Committee amendments have been adopted. Mr. Clerk, anything further on the bill?

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: We'll now discuss advancement of the bill itself. Open for discussion. Senator Smith, followed by Senators McDonald, Chambers, and Kruse. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I was ready to be quiet, but Senator Schimek provoked me. (Laugh) And that is, the statement that this is nonpolitical. And I simply beg to differ. I mean, that's...I think...I realize that Secretary of State John Gale supports felons' restoration of voting rights, and that's fine. And he came to that, perhaps, with advice by a task force that was composed of an equal number of members of each political party. But I guess I am wanting to know more about the Vote Nebraska Initiative, if Senator Schimek would yield to questions.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, would you yield to a question from Senator Smith? Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Schimek, how many different recommendations did this Vote Nebraska initiative come up with? Do you know, roughly?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Sixteen. I don't know, somewhere around that vicinity.

SENATOR SMITH: Sixteen. And did any of those relate to maybe tightening down our system to attempt to reduce voter fraud?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I'd have to go back and look. Only four of the recommendations did I actually introduce legislation for. A