

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

June 2, 2005

LR 98

of the most essential elements of our cause, given the current state of the constitution and the way in which we work, I am supporting Senator Foley's amendment. I have relied on State v. Hill, same versus Benton, Supreme Court of Nebraska, 1893. Now, Senator Chambers offered up in his discussion about this matter the idea that the Supreme Court of Nebraska would engage in some constitutional construction. Looking at this in the broader picture and determining possibly what the intent of Nebraskans is when applying the facts to the situation, maybe saying that under the law technically it's a gray area, but in the broader picture he broke our laws, does not deserve to serve in office, I think that is reserved for the people of the state of Nebraska in the constitution. And I would imagine that the Nebraska Supreme Court would strictly apply the constitutional provisions that it will consider in Article IV, Section 5, and its prior cases in this matter when the court heard the case of State v. Hill and same versus Benton in 1893. For that reason, I am going to vote for...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Flood.

SENATOR FLOOD: ...AM0714 (sic). Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Flood. Further discussion? Senator Landis, followed by Senator Smith.

SENATOR LANDIS: Members of the Legislature, this is the second time that I've had a chance to speak about the issue of impeachment for an officeholder in the state of Nebraska. The first time was in the case of Paul Douglas. As usual, I find myself (laugh) partially impressed and persuaded by pieces of every argument that I've heard so far today, for the most part, which means I wind up being someplace in the middle. Let me tell you that I, while impeachment is a possibility, at best it's a long shot. At best it's a long shot from my perception. You have to construct a pretty tenuous argument to get there, from my perspective. Could be wrong. In that sense, I agree more with the Foley amendment than the underlying resolution, which I believe I signed. However, I don't agree with the Foley amendment on its face because it simply leaves the piece where it is and it takes out Section 4, and my big problem now is