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SENATOR MINES: Yeah, that's correct.   What...right now, the petitioner, or the...we call the primary circulator, would go to their county clerk, as an example, and give them, within 60 words or less, the reason that they want someone recalled.   And the county clerk would then draft the petition, notify the person being recalled.   That person has 20 days in which to respond with a defense statement, and then it goes out.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Now, my question is, why do you want to make it harder to recall somebody from public office, when it's already been in statute for a number of years with this procedure?

SENATOR MINES: "Harder" may be the...may be a wrong term.   I think it ought to be "legitimized." I think if you as a...if state senators could be recalled, I'm not sure that you and I would be necessarily pleased if one of our constituents said, I don't like the way that Senator Louden sits at his desk, so I'm going to recall him, and that can happen under current statute for local elected officials.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, that's part of being elected and part of being a citizen.   I mean, they do have that power to do that, which, usually there's common sense.   But on the other hand, they still have to circulate the petition and get a certain number of signatures on the petition before the recall is valid. Is that correct?

SENATOR MINES: Yeah, that's right, except that if you've ever seen a recall in action, it's a very hurtful thing, very damaging to one's reputation, to one's business. And typically, more often than not, those recall efforts fail because there really weren't...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR MINES: ...sufficient grounds to proceed, and people kind of see that. But still, you have the stigma of a recall.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, yeah, I agree. Thank you, Senator Mines. I question whether this much legislation needs to be brought forwards for recall, when we already have something in statutes