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FLOOR DEBATE

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discussion?      Senator Louden, followed by Senators Mines, Beutler, and Redfield. Senator Louden. Senator Louden, you're recognized.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I have a problem with this amendment, that I, too, wonder why we have to put it into the courts to decide on a recall election. Recalls are usually for county offices and city offices, and anything but state offices and on down. And when you put it into the court, then you're getting it into the judicial branch of the government, and I question whether that takes a lot of the authority from the citizens out of their hands, by going into the court. As I read this amendment, on page 5 there, there's not exactly a time frame or anything on how soon any decision has to be made. I think that would be important in there. A recall election, this could take a length of time before a judge decides to rule on it. It doesn't say he has to rule on it at the time. The question is, he's got...he can't decide whether they have to be...what is that they have to be concerned that they presume the allegations in this statement are true, and they'll act most favorably to the principal circulator. And I question what kind of language that would be, if that's something that would be cut and dried. At the present time, with our recall petitions, you have to have about 35 percent of the voters that voted in that last election in order to sign petitions in order to have a recall election to start with. First of all, that has to be taken care of. You have to have a petition voters. And this is part of our Nebraska law, is to have petitions, circulate petitions to get whatever you want to done, if you feel that something isn't being done. So I'll have to vote against the whole bill, the way it is with this part in here at the court. At the present time, I would consider doing something about this part that puts this into the district court. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues. Listening to Senator Landis, you know, I think reasonable people can disagree. My...here's what I might respond to, in process. And Senator Louden, as well. The person who's being recalled has