

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

March 27, 2006 LB 786

that by involving the courts, it becomes something of an endorsement for the voters on the recall. But we're working ourselves into a lather about something that we...that the state of Nebraska probably has one of the broader recall laws that there is. And not all states even allow for recall of local elected officials. Twenty-one states don't even have it. And so it's not like we are taking away all the rights of the citizens to, within reason, be able to recall local elected officials who do something that is very serious. What we're trying to do is put some parameters on it. And the court piece of it was just to have an objective assessment of whether the allegations fit into those three categories--malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance. It was not to have the courts make any decision on the merits of the allegations, but only about whether the allegations as described by the person wishing to file the recall petition fell into one of those three categories. And so I really do believe that having the court system as a fallback is very important. But if we have to give up something, I would be willing to give up that piece of it, because I think that the rest of the bill is far too important. So thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Further discussion, Senator Smith, followed by Senator Mines.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Would Senator Louden yield to a question?

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

SENATOR LOUDEN: Yes, go ahead.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Louden, thank you. I'm trying to get a feel for where we are on the bill as it relates to your amendment and so forth. And I guess, for clarification purposes, your amendment would leave us with what kind of changes, then, if your amendment is successful?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Well, what it would do, would take out the part