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FLOOR DEBATE

April 12, 2006 LR 449

talked about this, and according to his opinion, Mr. Hergert is...hasn't played fair, but it's not impeachable, and I hold his opinion in great stead. Having said that, there's one element that I, as a layperson, am unsure about. I mean, all the other articles I can pick one side or the other. I'm unsure about what happened on January 11 and how that relates to the Articles of Impeachment. And I've asked, off mike, I've asked Senator Beutler if he would talk about this. Mr. President, could I have Senator Beutler yield, please?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR MINES: Senator Beutler, also in Mr. Mock's opinion, in his conclusion, as a matter of fact, he says: Similarly, while his, meaning Hergert's, January 11 campaign statement may also have violated both Nebraska civil and criminal law, Hergert's filing of this campaign statement was not an act directly pertaining to or connected with his office. I need an opinion from you as to why we...this is an impeachable offense. This is the linchpin to my decision. January 11 he was in office. How is this an impeachable offense? Mr. Mock said it's not.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, let me go back on the facts a little bit so that I'm be sure...being sure that I understand the situation and we all understand the situation. But Mr. Hergert had some opponent research done and, as you and I and everybody in this room knows, opponent research is done very early in a campaign because you need that information first before you do everything...decide to do everything else that you do. And there is information indicating that that process of gathering information by the Jackson-Alvarez Group began in the summer before the fall election, and went on through the fall election and certainly had been going on for a long, long time before the October 18 reporting date, when he should have reported those expenditures. But, in fact, he reported those expenditures way after the election, on December 14. That report, when he filed it, was intended to be misleading. It was filed while he was in office and, pursuant to the arguments that I had made to you