

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

April 12, 2006 LR 449

actions to feel that I could make that decision at that time. After reading the Mock report, I have an opinion. And that opinion is very low. And it is based not on what I've heard about him or anything, it's based only on his own actions, which I have come to believe were willful and corrupt. There are two reasons that I believe that. I believe that there is intentionality shown. I think you can see it from the examples of his having done things in the primary, received counsel not to do them, and doing them again. I think the bank loan evidence is very compelling. I think the testimony of his treasurer is compelling in terms of the intentionality. And I believe that he has continued to lie about what happened and is happening. And I particularly resent his assertion to the public that the Legislature did not give him a chance to tell his side of the story. I think to his impugning of us is something that I resent as a member of this body enormously. I am certain for myself that we have satisfied subsection (a) of Article V, Section 5 (sic) of the Nebraska Constitution. What I'm not as satisfied about, and it is the single issue on which my decision hinges and I still don't know what I'm going to do, is whether we have satisfied subsection (b), that the activities are related to the duties of office. And I've listened very closely to what Senator Chambers has said. I do have a friend who's a lawyer who I respect a great deal who says that the first duty of any elected official is to not subvert or corrupt the election process. And he believes that Regent Hergert did that and that that is grounds. And I would like...if Senator Bourne would yield to a question, I would...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne, are you available?

SENATOR BOURNE: I am, thank you.

SENATOR BROWN: Senator Bourne, I don't know if you heard what I just said but I have a friend who's a lawyer who said that the first duty is not to subvert or corrupt an election process.

SENATOR BOURNE: Not to do what again, Senator Brown?

SENATOR BROWN: Subvert or corrupt the election process.