

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

April 12, 2006 LR 449

alone, I will vote for impeachment. The second area that concerns me is...I have to ask myself the question: Does the punishment fit the crime? And I've heard speakers on both sides of that say that it either does or it doesn't. But let me ask you this question. Do the fines imposed really fit the crime? I mean, that's not very much of a punishment for somebody who's spending a lot of money in the election process. So if it's not adequate, where do we go from there? Where do we turn? There's nothing else that I'm aware of in the statute books. And maybe there should be, maybe we need to look at our accountability laws and our election laws. Maybe we need to do something else. But for me,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...that next step then is impeachment. And Senator Combs, you really nailed it, as far as I'm concerned, about what impeachment really is. And based on what you said as well as what a number of other people said, I think impeachment is that next step. And maybe we haven't used it very often, but maybe we haven't used it often enough either when there are clear violations of the laws in Nebraska. I think you just said one minute, didn't you, Mr. President?

SENATOR CUDABACK: I did.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, I was going to give some time to Senator Brown but I'm not sure there's enough. I just want to commend everybody...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Ten seconds.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...for very thoughtful conversation on this issue. It has been very good.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Langemeier.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, let me try to build on Senator Schimek's remarks and on Senator Brown's remarks and questions. The statement has been made that