

say a wave of constant attempts to change the system. Effectively, what was done, of course, was to allow a system of voters, hopefully, informed electors back when our country did not have mass communications, didn't have CNN who would cover trials, gavel to gavel, wouldn't have every movement of every candidate, of course. And what was left to be done was allowed the states, based upon their representation in Congress, those electors that the state was allowed to choose and the manner in which the electors were chosen was left up to the states to decide. And, for a variety of reasons, the states wanted to be free and independent, of course, to determine that and so the federal government at that point in time said, fine, as long as we have the electoral college we'll let the states decide the manner in which they choose to do so. Throughout history, of course, we have had a lot of those changes and states have chosen a variety of methods. I passed out to you a packet yesterday, in anticipation of the debate. For those of you who don't have it, took it down to your office and didn't bring it back, I've got extra copies over here, I would be glad to get to you. I did not pass out and duplicate the paper work on your desk, but we have extra copies if you would sure like to look at those for your use. But you will see that Nebraska is one of only two states in this country who do things differently. Now is it wrong just because we do it differently than everyone else? No, but I suggest to you that the policy and the position that we've left ourselves in, in this state, is very tenuous. The way Nebraska does it right now...and you will hear, I assume Senator Schimek is...she either takes the blame or the credit for this, depending on your point of view, and this is not a personal attack on Senator Schimek and she knows that, but the way we have it right now in the State of Nebraska is we're allowed five electors, three because of our members of Congress and the House of Representatives, and two because of our two United States Senators, for a total of five. The political parties choose their five electors and then, depending on who wins, those are the electors that go in December of the election years and cast their votes for president and vice president. And, really, the electoral college, if we want to debate on whether that's a good system or not, we can enter into that debate, but the real realities of the world are that there's nothing we're going to do to change the electoral college system. There's been a bill in Congress almost every year since the 1700s to do something with the electoral college and it has not changed. It just hasn't changed. And, like it or not, that's the world and that's the system we're living in and,