

April 4, 1995

LB 337  
LR 6

chance to participate in a constructive dialogue with those who have petition processes to come up with the best solution to whatever problem the people want to have addressed in the next election. So I think it's a very constructive step forward, I praise Senator Beutler for it, hope you'll vote for it.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Before we move to Senator Dierks and then Senator Warner, there are guests in the north balcony that I'd like to introduce. Senator Jones has five second, fourth and fifth graders from District 167, in Cherry County. Senator Wehrbein has 21 fourth graders from Central Elementary in Plattsmouth. Would both of you groups please rise and be recognized by the Legislature. Thank you for joining us. We also have another group that are from Senator Lynch and Senator Chambers' districts, there are 35 fourth graders from Wakonda Elementary in Omaha. They're in the north balcony. Would you please rise and be recognized also. Thank you very much for joining us. Senator Dierks has not yet gotten back to the floor. Senator Warner, your light is next.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'd rise I guess maybe to raise an issue, Senator Beutler can respond to it later, if he wishes. But I'm hesitant to vote for this because I am (inaudible) that you don't need to put this in the constitution. And I've gathered that that must have been the case if it was offered, something similar, on 337. But it says very simply that the proposed...the proposal has to...will be not less than four months after such petition. And I assume, with the language "not less than four months", there is no reason why you couldn't statutorily do something longer than that. And if that's true I would think it would be well not to have it in the constitution and simply be locked in. It may be something one wants to try for a while, or some other approach to try. But I would be hesitant to put it into the constitution if it is not necessary, and it would appear to me that's the case, that it's not necessary. Already you could do this by statute if you...if the Legislature chose to do so. So at this point at least I'd be opposed to the amendment as one that would not be necessary in order to do what is wanted, what is suggested, but it's not necessary to change the constitution it would appear to me.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Beutler, your light is next.