

SENATOR WHITNEY: You say the word "deceased" is in there someplace, in the present law.

SENATOR ANDERSON: Yes, I believe it is.

SENATOR WHITNEY: I read it and I couldn't find it, but maybe it's there. Then another thing, if that doesn't take care of it, I was wondering about the possibility of reinstating the stricken matter and then making it four years instead of two years.

SENATOR ANDERSON: The objection to doing this is, again, the basic objection to the purge is that the--as long as you leave the purge on the books, you have no means of identifying a person who moves out of his precinct of registration and then returns to that precinct to vote. We feel that it would be much better, in the long run, to initiate a challenge procedure similar to the challenge procedure which Douglas County, the Election Commissioner counties, now use. Come up with a challenge procedure that would apply to the whole state. We feel that this would be a much better system to the voters and would give us a means of identifying those persons who are voting illegally.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Stromer.

SENATOR STROMER: Mr. President, there is a motion on the desk.

SPEAKER: Read the motion on the desk.

CLERK: Read.

SENATOR STROMER: Mr. President, the amendment that we have here, there have been court cases involving the Purge Law in other states and I think one of the questions we are really trying to answer today and I think what the proponents have been saying of the bill is that we have to find a means of insuring and protecting the citizen who has registered to vote from fraud. This is the major reason for providing for registration. It's also the major reason for trying to provide some kind of system, whether we call it the purge or whether we call it the Challenge, to make sure that the voting list are clean, to make sure that it is composed of those people who live in those particular districts. I think, as it has already been mentioned here this morning, there is a great concern about voter fraud. Now I know even in a town such as mine, in Kearney, in my own precinct when I was precinct committeeman, there were a great number, in just one small precinct, of names of people who had either died or who had moved but, because we had no system to remove them they were still carried over on the voter registration list. Now I am basing the particular amendment that I have on a Supreme Court case and on a dissenting opinion of Michlagn because this particular Supreme Court case was referring to the fact that there were valid reasons for having a Purge system and, of course, the first and foremost of these was the fact to protect ourselves from voter fraud. But yet, at the same time, the problem we have had with the present bill that we have, or the present law that we have, when we use the words "two succeeding general elections", the problem being that we have narrowed this down to the fact that we were requiring people who only voted in general elections and to make it into "succeeding general elections". So to correct this matter, I have asked for this material to be stricken and so, then, what we are referring to is to "two elections" and this is preferred because we have some people who register to vote who participate only in special elections, such as a bond election. And so this would help, I think, clarify that particular point making the enacting or the starting of this beginning in 1976 which I think would then take care of the problem of Douglas County, and then from there, we would have every four year period that we would, then,