

of appointment but they all serve for their lifetime. Even though they have life time appointments, without even having to run on their record, they have uniformly developed a reputation of being the out-standing elements of the judiciary of this country. Now I'm not making a point that the county court system is going to be the outstanding example of justice, but I am going to make the point that this ~~stae~~ will be far better to make all judges

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equal and all judges sitting somewhat removed after they are appointed. We have the means now of defeating a judge. The courts themselves have strengthened the methods of removal of a judge. Now the political considerations that existed when this bill was first passed, no longer exist. It seems to me that there is absolutely no reason to not pass this bill and for those of you who are mad at the county court system, or mad at your particular judge, you are voting and if you vote against this bill you are doing it for the wrong reasons. You are doing it because you don't like an individual who arrived at his position through the political process. What you are doing is encouraging future judges to be just like the ones that you don't like. The best method of improving the county court system would be to put them in the merit system and then wait ten years and you will see that the county court system will improve exactly the way the district court system has.

**SPEAKER:** Senator Syas.

**SENATOR SYAS:** Mr. President, now regardless of what happens to this bill, and regardless of the time it has taken this morning, I think that the debate has been very good on both ways and all ways, in the fact that it has opened up a lot of thoughts on this matter which I think have been not opened up in the past. Now, Senator Chambers for example refers to the fact that you can have incompetent Senators elected and Judges and so forth, yes, and I will say that that is true or county commissioners or anything else, but there is one thing about it at least every four years the people do get a chance to rectify the mistake if they make one. In the judges case the possibility is quite remote. I notice that Senator Fellman hammers at the one judge that was turned down in Omaha which as I recall was the only judge in the since the merit plan that ever has happened too, I udnerstand, the last time that I checked, which was several years ago that Missouri hadn't turned down any. Senator Luedtke tells me that there have been some in Colorado. But, I remember when Senator Claver had a bill in here to let the people revote on the merit program and of course the bill was withdrawn by Senator Claver because he could see the heat that it was generating, but lets face the fact that the bar association is under the thumb of the courts. No attorney is going to come out against the judge. I mean that...that would just be suscide. The court requires them to belong to an organization, that is mandatory and the judicial nominating committee is dominated by whom? A Supreme Court Judge and members of the bar and then there are some so called lay people that the bar and the courts are more or less the