

Let me explain to you the time limits that are involved. These bills will be become law without the emergency clause on July 10th of this year. Excuse me. July 12th. Somewhere in the middle of July. The deadline for filing the petitions is 70 days before the election. Which was computed to be from November 5th, take 70 days back, would be August 27th. There is a good four to five weeks between those two dates. Now, even if the Secretary of State's office would refuse and this case could not be taken to court and assuming it had to go to court, there would be adequate time between the time this bill becomes effective in the middle of August and the deadline for petitions in the middle of July and the deadline for petitions in the middle of August. And I don't think there's any lawyer in this chamber that would say that the federal courts if they were asked wouldn't be able to get in and solve this problem. Now it seems to me what we're dealing with on the one hand is an attempt by Senator Chambers meaning good for himself, saying that it isn't fair to him because he has to do something and try to get everybody in this Legislature and everybody in the state to do this his way. That's what he wants. If we do that, we toss out the constitutional amendment. We toss out the team candidacy. We put Lieutenant Governor Frank Marsh, who might have run as a candidate for Lieutenant Governor, into a position where he might be holding two offices. If he gets elected to the new office, and Senator Chambers gets elected Governor, we ruin what might have been his plan, if he might have wanted to run for Lieutenant Governor. We set up a situation where we could have Governor Richard Marvel and Lieutenant Governor Terry Carpenter or Lieutenant Governor Frank Lewis or Lieutenant Governor Jules Burbach, the Republican and the Democrat. We do exactly the opposite of what the constitution says. Now, no one argues that any piece of legislation is perfect. I don't argue that this legislation is perfect. I do argue that it is a responsible attempt to solve the problems that were faced by oversight. It is the best that anyone can come up with. If there are still problems that remain, whether for Senator Chambers or the other candidates or the Secretary of State, they will have to be taken to court. I suggest to you that the most responsible way to remove ourselves from the problem is to pass this legislation. To defeat it it seems to me is to be irresponsible and to say in effect to Ernie, I want to do you a favor. Well, I would like to do Senator Chambers a favor too. But I don't think we can do it when we throw everything else into limbo. I urge that you defeat this motion. That these two bills are passed as they are and we let everybody go about their business.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: No response.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Kelly.

CLERK: Mr. President, had a motion. I move the previous question. Signed, Senator Carpenter.

PRESIDENT: All right, the previous questions been moved. Do I have or see five hands? The question is, shall the debate now close? If you are in favor of closing debate, vote aye. If not vote no. Motion is to close debate. Motion is to close debate. Have you all voted? Clerk will record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 4 nays.