

Legislature. I don't often find myself on an opposite side with Senator Wesely. A little history, please. When I first came to the Legislature the Legislature began on the first Tuesday of January and occasionally that first Tuesday fell on New Year's Day. The people of Nebraska did adopt a constitutional amendment to change the opening day of the Legislature to the reasonable compromise of being the first Wednesday after the first Monday. That means it never can be before the third, allowing you time to spend the holiday with family or friends or it can never be later than the ninth, which it was this year. When you are talking about planting time, when you are talking about harvesting time, each person in this Legislature makes sacrifices of one kind or another to serve in this body. It seems that this would help some but be a real hindrance to others to try and change our opening day again. I think interim study is an important part of our responsibility in this legislative body and we cut out part of the available response time if we try to organize the Legislature the same month we are hearing reports from interim studies. I have said before, and Senator Wesely knows that I am opposed to this proposal, I don't often find myself at odds, but this time I do not support the constitutional amendment. A constitutional amendment is a very serious proposition. It is an expensive proposition to put on the ballot and I am one who does not favor it. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, then Senator Lamb, then Senator Pappas, then Senator Warner, then Senator Beutler, Senator Hannibal and Senator Conway. So, Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I understand the intent of those people who would support LB 23...or LR 23, but I...let me point out to you that in the end this is not going to do what I think the intent is. The intent is to put into play a mechanism whereby we can get our organization set up a little bit earlier. And let's face it, part of the reason for doing that is to cut down on the amount of politicking that goes on each two years before the reorganization takes place. And that may be important to us, reorganization of the Legislature is important to those members of the Legislature who are in the Legislature at that point in time, but I would suggest to you it is not one of the major things that are of importance to the people of the State of Nebraska. Generally, the people of the State of Nebraska could care less who our committee chairmen or