

voters make decisions and you rejoice in the wise decisions and you condemn the foolish ones. But the voters are us. They are us. And I would not impose a qualification test for anybody running for the position of Auditor of Public Accounts. I know that when I cast my vote for that position, if I had one candidate who is a certified public accountant and another candidate who is not a certified public accountant but simply held a, let's say an associate of arts degree from a technical school, I am more inclined to go with the fellow who is a CPA, or the woman who is a CPA. But I am applying my reason. On the other hand, if the Legislature of the state has told me that I am not even able to make that choice because that position is blocked to people who only holds associates of arts degrees, then that precludes me from exercising my reason in that arena. I don't think I should be precluded. Now this issue arose, obviously, when we dealt with the impeachment of the Attorney General and I have been sitting here thinking about that. Should or should not we provide in the Nebraska Constitution that the Attorney General must be a member of the Bar Association, must be an attorney? It makes a tremendous amount of sense for the Attorney General to be an attorney. It makes a tremendous amount of sense for the Attorney General to have passed the Bar Association. On the other hand, if we are true believers in ballot box democracy, which I am, then I don't think we put that requirement in the Nebraska Constitution and we allow the voters to sort it out for themselves. In the end, we have to trust and respect the voters' ability...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...to reason and to make the best of decisions. Every now and then voters do things that are foolish and I am one of them. I do things that are foolish. But foolishness should not deprive us of the ability to make wise choices and also to make mistakes. For that reason, I oppose the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chizek, please.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Mr. Speaker, I call the question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record,