

Blue Book and I looked up the amount of proposals that had been submitted to the people in the State of Nebraska in recent years and I was rather surprised. I was surprised because of the dwindling number of proposals that have been submitted to the people. Now, I handed out a sheet, about a four-page sheet that has been outlined in yellow showing how many proposals have been submitted to the people in the State of Nebraska. Now, if you look to the last page, it is marked, page 129, and you look down to the bottom of the page that has been marked in yellow, you will note how many proposals had been submitted to the voters in the State of Nebraska by initiative or referendum that had gone through the process of being submitted through petitions. And I think you will note, especially after 1968, the change in the law in 1967 that reduced the amount or that made it tougher to get petitions. You will note that there has only been a few petitions that have been submitted to the people. In '68 there was one. In '74 there was one. In '78 there was three. And then in '82 was the Initiative 300, which, as you know, was a controversial proposal that was submitted before the people. But you will note that there hasn't been a rash of proposals submitted to the voters in the State of Nebraska on controversial issues or of meaningful issues. If you will even note above that, since 1914 when the initiative and referendum process was given to the voters or the voters agreed to the process, that there has been more in years prior to 1968 and I will submit to you that the reason why there has been a significant decrease, or I should say decrease, in the amount of proposals that the reason is if you will look on another handout that I passed out to you, a legal size sheet, there was a law change in 1967 which required that only registered voters could sign these petitions. You will note that the eligible voters according to the 1980 census was around 1.2 million voters, but the only amount of registered voters as of the '84 general election was around 902,000 or a reduction in the amount of possible signers of petitions of around 219,000. So you will note that there has been a rather significant change since the law was originally passed in 1912 allowing for the voters to submit initiative and referendums to the people. There has been a significant change as of 1967. And if you will look to the other sheet, you will note that there has been a marked reduction in the amount of proposals that have been submitted through the initiative and referendum process. So I don't take it lightly when I come before you and offer the kill motion on this particular