

SENATOR ABOUD: ...it's late, but this is a major change. We are changing the Constitution here and I realize...

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Okay.

SENATOR ABOUD: Okay?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Glad to do it, if I have the time, I mean I'll be glad to do it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: We have a lot of time.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Okay. On impeachment the question arises as a matter of law as to whether or not a legislature may commence impeachment proceedings in a special session that has been called for purposes of impeachment. That's a bona fide, honest to gosh question. The Nebraska Constitution never addressed that question so this measure, if approved by us and approved by the people, would say, yes, impeachment may be done in a special session called specifically for the purpose of dealing with an impeachment. The next question that arose during the course of the impeachment proceedings was, what form should the actual impeachment resolution take? How particular need it be? Or how general should it be? This proposed amendment would say that the resolution of impeachment must give reasonable notice of the acts or omissions alleged to constitute impeachable offenses, but doesn't have to conform to any particular style. The third big change, I think, is that our current provisions says that the impeachment trial shall be conducted by the Supreme Court within ten days, within ten days, after the Legislature has voted the impeachment. Well, that is too quick a time line. You can't even get into small claims court in ten days. So this simply says that the impeachment trial must be conducted in an expeditious fashion. It eliminates that ten day requirement. The next question that arose was, the next primary question that arose was, who should conduct the impeachment? Now during the course of our last impeachment the Attorney General's Office took the position that it should conduct the impeachment...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...because it is actually the state officer to do that. This change says, no, the impeachment itself should be brought by the Legislature and managed by two senators appointed by the Legislature who may make technical or