

to be considered, and whichever one gets to the Governor first is the one that would be given the first position, that is if you have conflicting or competing ideas. That has never been the basis of a challenge to any proposal that we have made to amend the constitution by way of passing a resolution through the Legislature. Sometimes I think the Legislature behaves in a way that is not as responsible as it ought to be. The Public Service Commission is an entity which, throughout the state I think, could find supporters, could find people who feel that were the Public Service Commission removed there would be no recourse to obtain redress against these high-powered, well-financed, profit-seeking instrumentalities or corporations. I offer this amendment for your consideration. If, as others in the past have argued, the Auditor should not be a position in the constitution, the Attorney General should not be a position in the constitution, the Treasurer should not be in the constitution, and the Board of Regents should not be referred to in the constitution, this amendment that I'm offering gives the opportunity, not only to discuss these things, but to attach such an amendment to LR 41CA. Then if 41CA goes on across the board and obtains 30 votes, these proposals that are contained in the amendment that I'm offering you would be placed before the public at the same time. What I would hope, even if the Legislature decides to pass 41CA, that the public could be prevailed upon to see that its best interests are met by retaining the Public Service Commission. I would like to ask Senator...oh, Senator Brown is kind of occupied, so I'm going to ask Senator Maurstad a question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Maurstad, in a brief conversation I had with you earlier, you were indicating that, despite the lack of confidence I expressed in the Legislature's ability to stand against these special interest groups, your opinion was that there will always be somebody like me in the Legislature willing, and maybe more than one person, willing to fight against these incursions by the special interest groups. The question I would ask you, should we place our reliance on the hope that one such person or maybe several such people will be in the Legislature, or should we build something into the system that would protect the public?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Senator, I believe that we would want to do