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LB 242

part, is to expand the exclusion of teachers to include district (sic--Class) V, and then to require that all school board members, those who may be nonteaching employees as well as others, to file a disclosure of interest statement. So, if there are any questions, I'd be happy to respond. I would urge your support. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT MAURSTAD:** Thank you, Senator Raikes. Debate on the Raikes amendment, Senator Erdman.

**SENATOR ERDMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President and members. As Senator Raikes alluded to, this was an amendment that was brought on a piece of legislation to the Education Committee that I had introduced and one of the things that...that I observed in looking at who was eligible to run on school boards and be elected to school boards was that teachers in Omaha weren't...weren't consistent with the rest of the state of Nebraska, and that's where the expansion comes in for teachers. But I was also noticing that there was no prohibition for other employees for...for a school district to serve, and it brought to a question of mine of may be potential conflict of interest and I wanted to make sure that we were consistent in the state of Nebraska with other legislative bodies that members who were employed by that body couldn't serve and receive their paycheck and make decisions based on that as a member of the governing body. I know that's been an issue that, over the past couple years, was even brought up here at the Legislature with members who had ran, who are employees of state colleges in the state of Nebraska, who are asked to either decline their membership to the Legislature or resign their position as a state college employee to be able to be eligible to serve here for...to remove themselves from potential of conflict of interest. And I'm contemplating on whether to reintroduce...or to introduce an amendment to Senator Raikes' bill to strike the words "as a teacher" on page 3, line 1, and what that would say was that if you were employed by a school district you could not serve on that school board as a board member. And that was what essentially the intent of my bill was, in addition to clarifying the language that was in the original bill, and saying that we're going to make sure that there is no conflict of interest, and that would also remove the need for the accountability and