

the attorney and you watch my light. It will be green and you will see Senator Beutler's light and Senator Hoagland's light and they will be green because it is a philosophy. It is a policy and the policy is simply that the consumer who goes before one of these kinds of boards should have an even break. He shouldn't be facing 90% representation from the other side. The adjudication of these kinds of issues should be even handed and when the consumer walks into that room or when there is an adjudication of the merits of whether or not there has been unfair practices, you shouldn't have the wolves judging the wolves or whatever. It should be at least an even handed distribution between industry people and consumers or nonindustry people. I personally want to remind this body that it is our position to ask the question, who is at the lever, not just, what time did the train arrive? The question is a matter of policy and the policy that we are asked to address in this amendment is whether or not a consumer should have an equal voice with the dealer in the adjudication of consumer-dealer disputes and that policy question can't be slipped under the rug by, "well show me a mountain of evidence of abuses." That policy question is ours because some time ago that policy question got answered and apparently we decided that there should be eight industry representatives and one consumer representative. Why did we make that policy choice? Who is going to defend that policy choice now? Where is the voice to justify that kind of a choice? It has not been made on this floor. We haven't talked about it. We have ignored the underlying policy issue in this situation and I don't think that is reasonable. Number one, it shirks our duty and, number two, it leaves to an unfortunate analysis of this situation based simply on what has been the net result of the recent history of this board. We should be addressing the policy questions that underlie state regulation. I am willing to do so. Senator Hoagland is willing to do so. Senator Beutler is willing to do so. The Appropriations Committee is willing to do so. So is the Public Works Committee, however, this body as a whole is unfortunately unwilling to address that issue and to take the time to analyze the problem at hand. I think that is unfortunate. I am going to support this amendment and I think the Legislature by listening so carefully to the treading boots out in the lobby in this situation have ignored a very important issue of what the role of the consumer is in state regulation and next time, next year when it is the matter of attorneys or whatever, I am going to be talking about this same policy question and I am going to be bringing up to you the fact that apparently in only limited circumstances, apparently when there are