

constituent concerns. I think that the district makeup that we have in the Legislature provides for accountability. A senator that votes against their...a group of individuals that he should be taking care of is usually voted out of office. Or, on the other hand, if there are concerns that aren't taken care of by that state senator, then he's voted out of office. But there is accountability. I think that if you go to district elections, whatever makeup we come up with, I prefer the approach of the original bill of 588 with Senator Chambers' amendment and with the committee amendment, I think you will have accountability. For a county that is as large as Douglas County, you have a lot of diverse viewpoints. Now Douglas County has pretty much run the gambit in the past few decades as to what type of election county commissioners should have. You have some of the county commissioners that were elected back in the early fifties that were...one time were district elections, the next time were elected at large, and they were always able to adopt. I might add that most of these people are re-elected anyway. So I'm quite surprised that there is really a lot of concern among the board members. I really don't view this as a question of personalities or whose on the board at this time or whose going to be on the board in the future because I view it as a philosophical question, that of accountability. I think, if we have accountability in the Legislature, we should follow through on this and say that there should be accountability in a district that is much larger, much larger than our own legislative seat. I will be supporting Senator Smith's reconsideration motion, and I will be supporting the committee amendments as they were, as they were when they were brought out of committee and eventually the advancement of the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Labeledz, followed by Senator Warner.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I urge you not to vote for the reconsideration. What is going to happen and perhaps some of you don't know, at least maybe the new senators don't, if we vote to reconsider then we go through the entire debate again on the amendment, because it is debatable, and that is going to take time. I don't know if we've been on this bill an hour or so. But if Senator Smith wants to vote against the amendment or reconsider the amendment, all she has to do is vote against the committee amendments. If they get 25 votes the committee amendments are not adopted and the bill is in its original form. So I urge you, because of the time and length of