

committee's...obviously, if you would work on LR 239, the Board of Regents becomes a moot issue. And it was my hope and my encouragement in committee that the Education Committee would amend the concept of a student vote into the whole concept of LR 239. And that's what the committee did and that's what I think is the right thing to do. Now Senator Warner mentions that it's a different issue. Well, yes, it's a different issue but you've got to hope the body understands that there are so many different issues in LR 239, I mean, it's hard to ferret out just the issue of student vote and mention...say that's different. I mean, you have the whole concept of whether or not having a coordinating commission, what to do on the college board of trustees, how many appointed members, what to do with the Board of Regents, who has control over whom, what the legislative authority could be. I mean, there are just dozens and dozens of issues in LR 239, an issue which I happen to support. Now, yes, the committee amendments add one more situation in there but I simply think they should all stand by themselves. And, obviously, if some people are concerned that having the student vote concept, if LR 239 is going to make it fail, well, then I highly wonder about the strength of LR 239 itself. It's as simple as that. And I think, you know, faulting the student vote being in 239 is, I guess, is like, you know, faulting Napoleon for not feeding the troops one day in the whole time in Russia. I mean, it's just...it's so insignificant compared to the overall change. It's not a fair thing to ferret out one thing and say, that's what's wrong. I think the committee amendments said it right. If we're going to overhaul the way we coordinate and govern higher education in the State of Nebraska, the concept of a student vote is something we should consider, something the voters should consider. And the fact of the matter is you're talking about all these appointed people, the student trustee, if you want to call it, vote is just one of, you know, fifty some appointed members. There's only seven of those students you're just letting in to vote. And so I understand Senator Warner's concerns but I truly believe if you are going to do something as massive as LR 239, it sure can withhold the student vote, that's not the straw that broke the camel's back. I think I'm going to turn my light on again and talk directly to the whole concept of whether or not a student vote is good or bad, but this time I simply feel that it's not...it does not make a whole lot of sense to just pull it out and put it by itself. I don't think that's the right thing to do. I think you put them all in together and if the voters want to approve LR 239, which I think