

with the fact that if we do it this way it's more than I ever dreamed of having. Well, in some ways that's true but, on the other hand, it's like should a beggar be happy if he only gets a crumb? Because the fact of the matter is, you know, you're kind of patting students on the head, saying, well, we'll put you separate, we'll give you a separate issue. You go out and help us get the big thing passed and then we'll let everybody else vote against you and you will have helped us pass ours but you won't get yours. You know, the arguments could be if this was a straight amendment on the Board of Regents to our existing system, it would be one thing. The fact of the matter is we're overhauling the whole thing. We're creating a bunch of new appointed positions. All we're saying is that one of those appointed positions should be a voting Regent and I think it's a little unfair if you're doing everything like this, it's a little unfair to divorce the student vote out by itself and say that just stands on its own. I mean, should we...do you want to have 10 different ballot issues, one for the trustees, one for the Regents? I mean, can all of them pass on their own? I think all of them together, in my opinion, hopefully, have the strength to pass but I don't think it's fair to just single out the student vote. You know, it's not like it's some unheard of thing that doesn't happen. You've seen the thing I've passed out. I mean, if we went...there's currently 63 governing boards in the country that students have full voting memberships and that's one...that's one reason it should be got and these aren't just Podunk U we're talking about either. We're talking about the Board of Regents for the Florida Institution, Ball State University Trustees in Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Montana, Pennsylvania. It's something that works. It's a method of getting students involved in the process and say that, yes, you do count. The fact of the matter is you're the students, you're the reason we have the institution, yes, we want to hear from you and, yes, you're intelligent enough to cast a vote just like everybody else is. I mean, is Senator Warner's amendment better than nothing? Yes, it is. And I'm not going to deny that, but the fact of the matter is in LR 239 we're doing a lot and to do that much then at the same time single out students and pat them on the head, I don't think is the right thing to do. And I urge the opposition to Senator Warner's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator McFarland.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is an