

March 12, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

idea is not a good idea but we are talking about restructuring and so I think at this time we need to pay a particular attention to what people are thinking about and what the committee amendments and so on, how the bills come out from the Legislature, so that they realize when they go to vote on the constitutional amendment, so they realize exactly what is going to happen. We have a lot of ifs involved in all of this this morning, because the big if is whether or not the voters of Nebraska will vote to pass LB 239CA (sic.) Thursday, I did not speak about the student regent vote but I did pass out some literature from the Daily Nebraskan which, for me, overcame any problems with the student regent vote. There isn't any problem with that. That's not the overriding issue. The overriding issue is whether or not we will have seven institutional boards and a Board of Regents and what they call the superboard. That word "superboard" concerns me too because that makes it sound like they're super people. Well, all of the people, including those of us in the Legislature, are people, we're average, ordinary people who are trying to do a job for the State of Nebraska, and if and when this happens, I think all of those people who would be on those boards would be in that same category. I just don't happen to buy the idea that we need all those boards. We need one good regents board and we need...if we need a coordinating commission, we already have one if we would give any strength or any money or any authority. So I just don't see why we have to go through this right now. Actually, the constitutional amendment is all we...I don't think LB 1141 should have even been introduced this session. So I want to say that one thing about it you must remember, you must never underestimate the intelligence of the American voter because that little person with the little pencil, going into the little booth, marking the little X, or doing the little...filling the little circle with black so it will come out on the computer, that's the person that makes the difference, and so that's why I say this morning all of these amendments are very important. We must discuss them. We must move them because the people who are going to vote on 239CA are entitled to know what they are voting for. They are not voting just to change the Board of Regents structure. They are voting for an immense change...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...in the way educa...higher education is governed in the State of Nebraska. Thank you.