

idea. It is something from a historical and from a structural point of view makes sense. It is a consistent type of proposal that would benefit, I think, both the UN-L and the Med Center. I think it is one that should be adopted and would be a much more effective way of coordinating higher education in our state.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Warner, please, followed by Senator Crosby and Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WARNER: Well, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I, too, would rise to oppose the amendment. Senator Withem has pointed out the consultants who came up with the structure that is proposed in the constitutional amendment that we are considering today also had the concept of individual governance boards for each of the seven senior institutions because there are matters of governance that are essentially a campus matter or an institution matter and can be very properly then be handled by an individual board for that particular institution. But, obviously, there is also a relationship between everyone of the seven senior institutions with one another and to meet that requirement is essentially described as coordination for that becomes the role of the Board of Regents as proposed in the constitutional amendment. Role and mission, as it is now, I would anticipate will continue to be by campus, as...and would see no change, in fact, probably not a significant change in role and mission from what is currently law. But, more importantly, the concept of whether the Med Center should cooperate or is it likely to be cooperating with other institutions besides UN-L, the answer to that is yes. Currently, we do have, will have before you in the appropriation bill, and many of you have heard it announced sometime last fall where there is a cooperative program between the Med Center and Chadron for the specific purpose of providing slots for students to become MDs and one of the basic designs of that program is to provide another avenue of assuring or encouraging that graduates of the medical institution will perhaps go to areas within the state which currently have difficulty or do not have, particularly, family practice physicians. And so that the need for the cooperation between all institutions certainly does exist but is provided within the structure of the proposed legislation at the regents level and as a matter of coordination. Finally, I think I should also mention, because I suppose from time to time there will be the suggestion, as has been in a variety of publications, that the Coordinating